Alameda joins the fun!

East Bay city council backs lesbian and gay pride resolution after years of controversy.

Pull it out, pull it out! Special Pride Section catalogues the gay life. see second section



Erin Blackwell asks the question: What is lesbian cinema?. see Arts section



BAY A REAL EPORT

Vol. 26 No. 26 27 June 1996

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years



ver half a million gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgenders and their supporters will frolic through the streets of san Francisco in a rainbow-colored display of pride and joy this weekend. The 27th annual Freedom Day Parade – California's oldest and largest – will kick off Sunday, June 30. The accompanying celebration has been going on for some time already.

City traffic control officials have made plans to shut down several streets over the weekend, but traffic will be unimpeded on the information superhighway, where the pride parade's own web page (at www.sffreedomdayparade.com) provides information updates and more. And for

those at home, KOFY-TV Channel 20 will show the parade

those at home, KOFY-TV Channel 20 will show the parade in all its splendor Sunday, beginning at 11 a.m.

Elsewhere in the community, citizens are putting their best feet forward and their best faces on. From Pacific Heights, where bar owners are spit-shining the walls, to South of Market, where they're just spitting on the floors, San Franciscans have made sure they're ready for the visitors who come from around the world to see first-hand how we put on a party.

And what a party it will be! Parade participants will be as always – young, old, gay, not gay, female, male, politicians, voters, liberal, conservative, professionals, laborers, homemakers, musicians, drama queens, dykes on bikes, imminaters, musicians, drama queens, dykes on bikes, imminaters in the parade participants.

makers, musicians, drama queens, dykes on bikes, immi-

grants, heirs, welfare recipients, and probably more than one or two Patsys and Edinas. Some will be dressed to the nines, and some will barely be dressed at all.

and some will barely be dressed at all.

The parade of diversity will leave the Civic Center/UN
Plaza area at 11 a.m. and gambol down Market Street to
Steuart. And the best part is that everyone is welcome – as
long as they support freedom and equality and justice for all.
Volunteers are still being recruited to facilitate the party,

according to the parade committee. Although there have been hundreds – if not thousands – who have already contributed to the effort, more are needed for tasks ranging from production support to gate security.

ACT UPs zap PETAphiles

by Bob Roehr

he PETA party is over," according to Jeff Getty, the Oakland AIDS research ac-tivist who was the subject of an experi-mental baboon bone marrow transplant last December. He was in Landover, Mary-land Thursday, June 20 to Jead a protest against a convention of animal rights supagainst a convention of animal rights sup-porters, whom he accuses of trying to shut down medical research involving animals.

down medical research involving animals.

"This is the first time in history that they have been demonstrated against and opposed by another grass roots organization."
Getty said. "Something is terribly wrong with PETA [People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals] when we have to get out here and get ourselves arrested."

The protesters had gathered at the main entrance to 1254 it Argan to block enimals.

entrance to USAir Arena to block animal rights activists arriving for the start of the "Congress." There ended up being little to block. Traffic was sparse and the yellow

school buses shuttling participants from the subway seldom had more than a handful of riders. The Arena, home to professional basketball and hockey games, was clearly in no danger of gridlock.

Operation Rescue tactics

Most of the protesters were from San Francisco's ACT UP/Golden Gate. They warned those in the entertainment industry that no one could wear a red ribbon while supporting the animal rights agenda of stopping medical research. Their chants soon filled the air: "Animal tests save human lives don't give propage to PETA's lives and the period of the protest of the period of the protest of the period of the per

soon filled the arr: "Animal tests save human lives, don't give money to PETA's lies," and "Dan Mathews [a gay PETA organizer] you can't hide, we charge you with genocide." Steve Michael of ACT UP/Washington provided the fieriest oratory against animal rights extremists. He cited the 1989 burning of an Arizona laboratory doing research on cryptosporidium a waterborge paraite. on cryptosporidium, a waterborne parasite

page 18 ▶



Oakland activist Jeff Getty was arrested and led away from animal rights activists in Landover, Maryland last Thursday, as were eight other people with AIDS. Counter-demonstrators, including a woman who hit Getty with her car, were not arrested.

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FIRST OF SECTIONS

▼ Community Dental Update ▼



Richard A. Barrera D.D.S.

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To Rinse Or Not To Rinse

Mouthwashes have been a topic of controversy within the dental profession for years. Is there any basis to the claims made by products promising to freshen breath, reduce plaque, and guarantee sex appeal?

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The use of anti-plaque mouth rinses is not the complete solution to effective oral hygiene, but it can be an important addition to proper brushing, flossing and professional dental cleanings. Ask your dentist to help you select the right products.

For more information on oral rinses or to set up a dental visit, please call us today!

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Supes support gay center

Resolution urges Brown to provide funds

by Cynthia Laird

an Francisco's three openly gay supervisors were joined by other members of the board Monday, June 24 as they kicked off Gay Pride Week and announced a resolution urging con-tinued support of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community center that's planned for the city. Supervisor Leslie Katz intro-

duced the resolution, and was joined outside City Hall by fellow board members Tom Ammiano, Susan Leal, Barbara Kaufman, and Michael Yaki.

Additionally, supervisors Angela Alioto, Sue Bierman, and Kevin Shelley co-sponsored the legislation. Katz said that board member Reverend Amos Brown has told her that he also supports the resolution

The Community Center Project got underway about a year ago in a renewed effort to get a center established in San Francisco. A proposed site has been located on Market Street at Octavia Street. The proposed facility of 48,000 square feet will include a renovat-ed Victorian building, plus a newly

ed Victorian building, plus a newly constructed building next door. Acquisition of the property is being made possible by funding from the San Francisco Redevel-opment Agency. Negotiations are also underway for significant city funds for construction costs. About \$1 million needs to be raised from private sources.

raised from private sources.

The resolution urges the redevelopment agency to "move swiftly" in acquiring the community center property and also urges Mayor Willie Brown to "support the use of city funds for the con-struction of a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community center



Supervisor Leslie Katz.

Proponents have stressed San Francisco is one of the few major cities without a gay community

Plans were announced this week for a second gay communi-ty center in New York, this one in the Bronx.

Katz noted the importance of a

Katz noted the importance of a community center here and illustrated her point with a story of a young gay man she knows whose family dropped him off in the Castro after learning he was gay. "They [the family members] said to him, 'These are your people,' and dropped him off,' Katz said, adding a community center would have been invaluable to the young man after that incident.

young man after that incident. Leal echoed Katz's support for the center, saying, "It's long over-due. We have a real chance to create a space that welcomes the en-tire breadth of our community. This resolution will put the mayor and board of supervisors clearly on record in support of a com-

Welcome the rainbow

"This is a terrific way to kick off gay pride week." Ammiano said. "I'm really, really anxious to see it go forward."

Kaufman, who Leal credited with focusing on redevelopment agency funding for the project, said she was glad the mayor is in support of the community center.

"I'm delighted Mayor Brown made a commitment to this," Kaufman said.

Kautman said.

Katz stressed the broad coalition of support for the community center. Representatives from organized labor, Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA), the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, and the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club were on hand at the press conference.

Katz pointed out activists in the transgender community are supportive of the community

Scott Shafer, president of the Community Center Project Board of Directors, agreed the center is

This is not just a frill. It's a fundamental part of our well-being," Shafer said. Pam David, also a community

center board member, said this time the project is inclusive of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans-gender community. "It's been tried twice before.

What's been lacking is a broad base of support," David said. "Our entire rainbow needs to be welcomed." ▼

For more information about the Community Center Project, cali (415) 241-1526.

California Reform Party leader blasts Clinton's same-sex views

'Perot has not taken a position,' Mangia says

by Hakeem Oseni II

ecretary of the California Reform Party and gay activist James Mangia assailed President Clinton's decision to President Clinton's decision to support a Republican-sponsored bill that would prohibit same-sex marriage and deny federal pen-sions and benefits to same-sex couples – but Mangia gave no concrete answer as to where the Reform Party's founder, Ross Parent stands on the issue, More-Perot, stands on the issue, More-over, he said, he would dissuade Perot from making his position known, as Clinton did. "I think Ross Perot is opposed

I think Ross Perot is opposed to the federal government being involved in the regulation of the American people's private lives. I think this bill is an intrusion in the private lives of the American people," Mangia told the Bay Area Reporter.

"This country was built on the

"This country was built on the principle of individual liberty and individual freedom, so President Clinton's decision is a direct at-tack - not only on those principles, not only on the lesbian and gay community, but on the U.S.



Reformer James Mangia

Constitution," he said, adding that the Reform Party has taken a strong position in support of individual freedom.

Mangia says the Reform Party does not take positions on specif-ic social issues, because "that's what politicians use to divide the American people and deny human rights to significant seg-ments of America.

"The Democrats have a position on every single gay rights issue imaginable and have yet to deliver on a single one," he says. "They

screwed us on every single issue.

"Platform positions mean nothing. The issue is if you are going to build a party that's inclu-sive, democratic, and whose basic principles openly support indi-vidual freedom and the Bill of Rights. I am the first openly gay leader of a major political party that says something about the Reform Party.

"Perot has not taken a position

on same-sex marriage], and as a gay leader I would urge him not to," Mangia told the B.A.R.

Mangia believes the Reform Party can be a new vehicle for gay

voters to build a partnership with middle America.

middle America.

"The issues [on which] most of the American people agree, and which the lesbian and gay community needs to insure our basic civil rights, are the issues of political and economic reform, that is making the politicians accountable to the will of the American able to the will of the American people insuring more democracy, more participation and a preservation of the U.S. Constitution which the Democrats and Republicans have been all too willing to ignore."

Alameda council backs mayor's proclamation to gays, lesbians

by Cynthia Laird

apping a year of controversy, the Alameda City Council adopted a resolution in support of Mayor Ralph Appezzato's proclamation recognizing the city's gay and lesbian community at its meeting Tuesday, June 18.

The 3-2 yete came after about

The 3-2 vote came after about an hour of discussion on the issue. Council member Al DeWitt, who opposed the gay pride proclamation last year, was the deciding vote when he announced he would second the motion. "I will support the resolution the mayor has issued," DeWitt

DeWitt's support of the resolution was a surprise to members of the Alameda gay community. Appezzato and council mem-

ber Karin Lucas joined DeWitt in supporting the resolution. Coun-cil members Charles Mannix and

Lil Arnerich opposed the motion.
The mayor, who opposed the
matter last year, publicly reiterated his support for the island city's
gay and lesbian community at last week's meeting. Appezzato has not made many comments re-

not made many comments of garding the issue.

"I felt very comfortable with the proclamation," Appezzato said. "I did it because it was the right thing to do."

At the June 4 council meeting, Appearato issued his proclama-

Appezzato issued his proclama-tion to the gay and lesbian community, Afterwards, Lucas wanted

munity. Afterwards, Lucas wanted a resolution from the full council in support of it placed on the agenda of the June 18 meeting.

"I asked that this resolution be put on the agenda," Lucas told the audience. "An injustice was done last year. There is no room for discrimination in Alexandra." crimination in Alameda.

Handful of opponents

More than 100 people attended the meeting, including about 85 members of Out on the Island

(OOTI) and the group's supporters. Only a handful of speakers opposed the matter. About 20 opposed the matter. About 20 people, including many hetero-sexuals as well as OOTI members, spoke in favor of the resolution. "The proclamation acknowl-edges that many of us have made

contributions meant to benefit all Alamedans," said Greg Alves, OOTI executive board member. "We're all part of the same com-munity. All of us probably have diversity in our families."

OOTI member Allan Shore spoke about the need for the resolution, saying, "All of us have gone through a whole year of this rocess. I can't see why you ouldn't support the resolution." citizens of Alameda."

"This is not about approving a value system," Allen said.

'Thinly-veiled gamesmanship'

In his opposition, Mannix did agree with Lucas that there is no room for discrimination in Alameda. However, Mannix said he could not support the resolu-

tion.
"I don't believe this issue should be one to come before the council," Mannix said. "I will not second the motion because I feel it's redundant. The mayor has is-sued a proclamation, and I have no problem with that." Mannix, who serves as vice

" asked that this resolution be put on the agenda. An injustice was done last year. There is no room for discrimination in Alameda."

-Karin Lucas, Alameda Council Member

Several people at the meeting spoke of the need for the resolution to be passed and for the city to put the issue to rest after a year of controversy.

Michael Yoshii, pastor at Alameda's Buena Vista United Methodist Church, urged the council to adopt the resolution. Yoshii, who's married and has two Yoshii, who's married and has two children, thanked Appezzato for taking time to meet with the city's gay community over the past year.

"I hope this evening can be a healing evening, and part of a healing process," Yoshii said.

Christine Allen, executive board member of OOTI, said she hoped the council would take re-

hoped the council would take re-sponsibility as elected officials to "recognize the achievements of

mayor, went on to state he viewed the matter as a "thinly-veiled piece of political gamesmanship." "I certainly hope I haven't of-

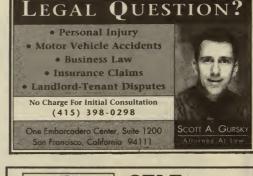
fended anyone, I'm merely in disagreement with the motion," Mannix said.

Arnerich, the other opposing voice on the council, did thank OOTI members for letting him be alone so that he could make up his own mind. He also said he has "no problem with the gay and les-bian community."

However, Arnerich said he did not feel the proclamation was necessary and would not back down from his earlier opposition

to it.

"I cannot support the proclamation as written," he said.





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unday's Pride Parade will be a little bit safer this year thanks to the efforts of several ViRx employees, who got together June 24 to stuff thousands of their company's envelopes with condoms. The free condoms will be distributed at the June 30 blowout, so keep an eye peeled for them.

School board apologizes for bigoted **Berkeley High School yearbook**

by Cynthia Laird

embers of the Berkeley Unified School District Board of Education apologized Wednesday, June 19 for anti-gay and racial statements that were printed in the Berkeley High School yearbooks.

Three senior bovs were sus-pended during the last week of school and were not allowed to attend June 14 graduation cere-monies, after school administrators discovered the comments that were printed in the section of the yearbook devoted to parting statements by senior students.

statements by senior students.

The students' statements attacked gays, Arabs, blacks, communists, and hippies.

One of the suspended seniors wrote, "f- da hipys, comys, nags, and fags," and included other profanities

"This situation caused a lot of pain for a lot of people," Board President Pamela Doolan said at last week's meeting. "Hopefully we somehow will benefit in some way."

About 400 of the yearbooks containing the offensive passages were sold to students June 6. School officials blacked out the comments

in about 400 other yearbooks.

The boys, whose names have not been released by school officials, have stated they apologize for the statements. Additionally, Lisa Newman-Webb, the year-book advisor, issued a one-paragraph apology to the companion.

graph apology to the community. In the statement released to the students, staff, parents, and the community June 6, Newman Webb and the yearbook staff stat ed, "We sincerely apologize for any pain that this has caused and want you to know that we will take action on this

Hate speech isn't free

At last week's school board meeting, representatives from the East Bay Lesbian and Gay Demo cratic Club (EBL/GDC) and the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee spoke to board members and offered to help pro-

vide sensitivity training to students at Berkeley High School.
"I think the slurs in the yearbook are very serious," said Tara Kelly, EBL/GDC president.
Raif Hijab, a Berkeley resident

and member of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, said the board has a responsibility to face the problem.

"There needs to be a better un-derstanding towards minorities,"

he said.

Committee member Wafaa
Aborashed added, "It's important
for me that you understand we
want to help in getting away from
these slurs."

After several speakers at the
meeting said they thought the

meeting said they thought the board should apologize, all of the members did so.

"I personally apologize for this incident," board member Irene Hegarty said. "We clearly need to institute better procedures. Yes, there is free speech, but we don't have to publish hate speech."

"I feel it's not at all an aberration, but the result of failure of

communication," commented board member Lloyd Lee. Nina Fallenbaum, the student member of the school board who has just graduated from Berkeley High School, also called upon the board to send a "strong message to the community.

Hegarty and other board members noted that a study is going to be done at Berkeley High School next year regarding diver-sity issues. The study had been planned before the fiasco with the high school yearbooks.

Douglass's new name: Harvey Milk

by Dennis Conkin

he San Francisco Board of Education voted Tuesday, June 25 to rename the 105year-old Douglass Elementary School in the Castro "The Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy."

Tuesday's vote ended a long struggle to rename the school in honor of the slain civil rights leader - which Douglass parents opposed to the name change had blocked for years.

The vote came after lesbian school board member Angie Fa noted that the district had quick-ly voted to rename San Francisco schools in honor of former Mayor George Moscone and Latino civil rights leader Caesar Chavez, following their deaths.

In a gesture that political ob-servers said reflected high tensions over the issue, board mem-ber Carlotta Del Portillo was conspicuously absent during the his-

toric vote on the measure.

Opposition to the name change included the objection by one parent that activists were trying to create "a shrine to Harvey Milk," concerns that children would find the cerns that children would hid the name change confusing, and claims that parents would have to explain sexual orientation to chil-dren too young to understand.

Several parents claimed they would withdraw their children from school over the name change.



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Health Department to provide dickwrap

by Dennis Conkin

n estimated 200,000 latex condoms will be distributed in gay bars and sex clubs throughout San Francisco during Pride weekend festivities, according to a Health Department official.

The outreach effort targeting

patrons of 60 gay bars and ten sex clubs kicks off a two-phase AIDS prevention strategy that will also on an ongoing basis, said Dr. Gene Copello, the city's AIDS prevention chief. Sex clubs are currently re-

quired to make condoms and other safe sex materials freely available to customers, according

available to customers, according to city-approved Coalition For Healthy Sex guidelines.

Copello says that making condoms routinely available in gay venues serves both a cautionary and a practical purpose.

"It's a reminder that there is still an AIDS epidemic, and that people are still at risk. It also makes available a method of preventing the transmission of AIDS which is still the best method of which is still the best method of which is still the best method of prevention," Copello said. The condom distribution plan

The condom distribution plan has been underway for a "few months," Copello said – after the AIDS office reviewed the matter and found a gap in "terms of routinely making condoms available in local bars."

The condoms cost \$10,000 for the Health Department to purchase, Copello said. They will be distributed by AIDS office staffers and community volunteers.

In a partnership between the Health Department and participating venues, bar owners will

pating venues, bar owners will also help defray the expenses of making condoms available to customers, Copello said.



Lola Lust and Manuel check out the free condom dispenser at Esta Noche.

According to Copello, the primary non-profit AIDS service contractor providing street outreach and education efforts – and periodic condom distribution at gay bars – is the Stop AIDS Project

Like Copello, SAP staffer Dan Wohlfieler, MPH, said that con-doms remain a critical part of AIDS prevention efforts and that because gay men often meet sex partners in gay bars, condoms should be routinely available to

customers.
"It's one component of an effective AIDS prevention strategy,"

Wohlfieler suggested that objections to baskets or boxes of condoms on bars could be overcome if bartenders distributed a condom to each customer as they returned change from a sale of al-

Copello said that the agency would shortly issue requests for community-based organizations to bid for an AIDS outreach/education condom distribution con-

tract.
Condom availability in gay bars and other venues is a com-mon practice in numerous U.S. cities with high AIDS risk popu-



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HIV council fiddles...

Debates policies, cancels interviews

by Cynthia Laird

fter a lengthy debate, mem-bers of San Francisco's HIV Health Services Planning Council voted Monday, June 24 to cancel interviews that had been scheduled for next week with people who are interested in fill-ing vacancies on the body. The council will hear recommenda-tions from its membership sub-committee when it meets again

committee when it meets again Monday, July 8.

Some planning council members charged that holding interviews may intimidate people and keep them from applying for three spots on the council. Eight interviews had been scheduled for July 2, and 3, but those were July 2 and 3, but those were scrapped Monday evening. Members to the council are se-

Members to the council are se-lected by Mayor Willie Brown, with recommendations from the HIV Planning Council. The council allocates and pri-oritizes funding for programs re-ceiving federal Title I funding through the Ryan White CARE Act and Title II state funds.

Monday night, the members

discussed its role in selecting members and how that process should be completed.

There were 23 responses to the council's request for applicants, and of those, eight were selected for interviews. The council, whose composition is established by federal law, can have up to 35 members.

bers.
Council member Linford Gayle emphasized that not every-one may feel comfortable with having an interview, and he pointed out that he and others were not interviewed by the coun-

"Not everyone does interviews, but all get HIV," Gayle said.
Several council members concurred with Gayle.

However, Norm Nickens, one of the council's co-chairs who is with the city's AIDS Office, expressed his concern that by delay-ing the appointment of new members, they will have little time to become familiar with the coun-cil before it starts discussing funding priorities in August for next year's contracts.

"We've been discussing since

last fall and interviewing [appli-

cants] was brought up last July," Nickens said, adding that once the council selects people, they must still be approved by the mayor's office. ▼



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in recent years.

And why not? We've earned it.

These have been a couple of tough years, no question, but our perseverance has paid off. Even with DoMA rearing its ugly head, much of the Gingrich Congressional gloom is lifting – as he is sinking – and Dole is crashing around on the reefs of his own

cky record.

Better still, it seems that after 15 years of the epidemic, science is increasingly on-tar-get with ways to fight HIV. Since last year's parade, protease inhibitors and non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors have hit the market, capable of bringing viral loads down to previously unimaginable lev-els; two important protein co-factors have been discovered recently, which should help establish ways to avoid infection; and re-searchers have found HIV uses the body's dendritic cells as its hideout before it ambushes the immune system, the implica-tions of which are still being determined.

Of course, this is also a weekend of some less joyful reflections. It inevitably brings to mind marchers from previous parades who aren't here now because of AIDS, or breast cancer, or anti-gay violence. We march for them on Freedom Day, as well as the thousands of people who are still too frightened to be out of the closet in these weird reac-

to be out of the closet in these weird reactionary times. They, too, are victims.

Many of those closeted people (some of them younger gays and lesbians, but not all of them) will be watching the parade on television this Sunday, so anyone who passes by the KOFY-TV camera may want to give them a hearty wave. At least a few of them will see that gesture and make up their minds to be here next year, no matter what.

And that is how revolutions sweep the country.

country.
Speaking of the folks at home, we would

also suggest writing a few letters explaining the situation we face in America today, and sending them to friends, relatives, old college roommates, former platoon mates, ex-coaches, and anyone else who might be reached and educated by a per-

sonal note from a close personal homosexual friend.

We intend to write some cousins in

the midwest, where the Christ-ian Coalition has been active lately, to let them know about

our toils, about how we've been nursing sick friends and fighting sick legislation, and to sincerely ask them for their help. We won't expect them to help with the nursing, but we might be able, with the right letter, to get them to un-derstand that if there is a "gay agenda" that we want, it is exactly what we have *always* wanted fairness

And isn't that what they want for their

kids, whether straight or gay?

What kind of parent wants to give their children a broken America that regrets and repudiates its past as a great melting pot?

Or a world where the differences between people are more significant than their similarities?

Or a government where laws pun-ish diversity and divide citizens? All of that is happening in America now, as it happened in Germany, as it happened in Bosnia, as it happened in

ralia, as it happened in Burundi ...

The conflict here may be more discreet, but it is still a civil war when fellow citizens fight each other at lunch counters and in

burning churches, in late night acts of violence against unfa-miliar neighbors and early morning confrontations on public transit once the concept of "public" has been rendered meaningless. And any American with any kind of family values must know that a civil war is one thing this country can never afford.

Keeping our country the land of the free is everyone's responsibility, no matter how hard the work. Writing those letters won't be easy, but look around at the freedom we enjoy this weekend and ask yourself: Isn't it worth it? ▼



Editorial

You can help a friend who crosses the speed limit

by W. Craig McDermit, Ph.D.

m very worried about how widely m very worried about how widely speed is abused in our community. I'd like to share my ideas about how we can help those near to us – a lover, a friend, a roommate, a work colleague – who may have crossed over the line from use to abuse. (I use the male pronoun here, but I'm well aware that about 20 percent of speed abusers are women.)

adusers are women.)

Our challenge is to love ourselves and our friends more, and not let drugs replace ourselves in the role of "comforter." I respect others, autonomy and privacy, but "hands-comes". off" is not appropriate if a friend is self-de-structive. To confront a friend – who may deeply resent the overture - is to take a per sonal risk. But silence at such a time can be

To stack the odds in favor of a friend

hearing you:

• Choose a calm, unhurried time and place to talk; · Emphasize not judgment, but heartfelt

Offer a few specific examples of what has aroused that concern;

· Listen attentively;

· Be thoughtful and expressive, without

getting into debate or power struggles;

Don't nag!

And be aware of community resources such as New Leaf (formerly Operation Con-cern/18th Street Services), Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics, self-help groups, and indi-

If your heart-to-heart talk works great. If not, think about setting some clear, well-considered limits. For example, you might say, "I don't care to be around you when you're high." Be clear that it's the behavior, not the person, that you want to avoid. Talk about when you would like to be **Guest Opinion**

around them.
Avoid enabling. En abling is anything we do that makes it easier for the other to continue the destructive behavior- making excuses for them, denying that there's a problem, lending money, not complaining of their exploitation of

If the friend is also a sexual partner, be prepared to deal with the hypersexuality and "unsafe" practices that accompany speed abuse. Furnish yourself ahead of time with safer-sex negotiating language, e.g., "That makes me too nervous, how about this instead?" or "Let's not get carried away." Be consistent: be prepared to match your ords with actions.

You are a "clean and sober" resource to

the person struggling with speed abuse.
Therefore, make an effort:
• To be available when he reaches out to

you. If they get into a self-help program, you could go to a meeting or two to demonstrate support.

• To include him in non-drug

activities. Be patient; he may have forgotten how to enjoy himself without drugs.
To be sensitive to "trigger" situations. Cocktails or pot smoking may seem harmless, but they can thwart his recovery.

· And, if he's your sexual partner, to re-eroticize sober sex by emphasizing rapport over technique, and sensuality over perfor-

Speed can be a vicious drug, the use of which – in this age of AIDS – can be literally life-threatening. Our challenge is to care enough to be our brothers' keepers. ▼

Dr. McDermit is a clinical psychologist with 14 years of practice in Francisco.

561-1404

Freedom, love, dignity

Freedom, love, dignity

It is our destiny to be free and our right to love. And ours by our humanity alone to have dignity.

To hold one's head high and proud despite the 3 Horsemen of Judeo-Christian Politics (Fear, Ignorance, and Hatred) takes only the effort of standing up and out of their muck and horseshit they spread and stating: "Not in my lifetime, motherfucker, will you take away my Freedom, my Love, or my Dignity."

So the forces of Helms, Sheldon, Mabon, Dole, and Clinton have locked arms in a common cause,

and Clinton have locked arms in a common cause, that is, the use of other humans as fodder in their bat-

le for power in American politics.

Boy, am I surprised. Aren't you, boys and girls?

None of these assholes can even agree to an Equal Rights Amendment for the woman that they are only too proud to boast they fuck every night. Did anyone seriously think any of these career politicians, Bill and Hill included, could give a rat's ass about a bunch of faggots and dykes in San Fran or Hawaii or New York wanting even frights to laws freedom as even and

taggots and dykes in San Fran or Hawaii or New York wanting equal rights to love, freedom, or some goddamned dignity, much less to get married?

I'll vote for the first politician who supplies a video of him/herself fucking his/her brains out. "Submitted for your approval or critique." Outside of that, fuck 'em all. Every single one of them, Bill and Hill included, will fuck anybody over at the drop of a hat for a few more votes.

Think globally, vote locally.

Michael S. Eckenrode San Francisco

The cat's patootie?

Notwithstanding all the "cool head-ed rhetoric" about voting for Clinton to ed rhetoric" about voting for Clinton to avoid another conservative appointment to the Supreme Court, and about Clinton doing more than any other president for gay issues, I wonder if the so-called gay vote, left and right, may be better served by staying home or voting third party in 1996, for the better message it would send to politicians about family, individual values, and human dignity.

However, if you believe the so-called gay community should be made the Sister Souljah of 1996 by Clinton. Inc., over the issue of same-sex marriages.

Clinton, Inc., over the issue of same-sex marriages, then perhaps you will find William Jefferson Clinton the cat's patootie in 1996. Clinton will win without the gay vote, so why not take the opportunity to tell politicians that family values and human dignity are not political chips to be toyed with in America. Hum?

> Rand Knox San Rafael, CA

Mailstrom

Punished for assisting PWAs

So far, my assistance as a volunteer to gay men with AIDS has cost me almost \$6,000 at the hands of with AIDS has cost me almost \$6,000 at the hands of pseudo-liberal judges and flunkies of Governor Wilson. In 1989 I assisted the estate of Keith, a gay man who died of AIDS, first as a moving man and later as a volunteer lawyer. As a result, four San Francisco judges forced me to pay \$5,000 to Keith's disgruntled roommate, since Keith's will did not give his roommate what he expected. Several years later, the bullies at the State Bar of California falsely accused me of professional misconduct while acting as that rowing professional misconduct while acting as that moving man, and renewed their malicious oppression only two months ago. In 1993, I loaned some money to Erich, another gay man with AIDS, while he was in Ward 5A at San Francisco General Hospital, who had promised to repay me with benefits applied for from the State of California. Now, almost three and a half years after Erich's death, Governor Wilson's minions have caused my bank to debit my account for almost \$1,000, the amount of those benefits. I have learned the hard way that even liberal governmental officials discourage rather than support the work of AIDS volunteers, at least in gay cases.

One does not expect politicians and bureaucrats who express support for gay rights and AIDS causes to discourage assistance to people with AIDS. Yet my experience has demonstrated that these seeming friends are little better than the right-wing extremists who openly hate and despise homosexuals, rejoicing while AIDS is decimating the ranks of those who would otherwise be fighting for gay rights. Perhaps the best example of such a hypocrite is Senator Dianne Feinstein, who as mayor vetoed San Francisco's anne reinstein, who as mayor vetoed san Francisco's first domestic partners ordinance at the behest of the homophobic Catholic Archbishop. They contributed to the AIDS deaths of many gay men by encouraging sexual variety rather than stable relationships. President Clinton as well has failed numerous times to provide clear and decisive leadership in these matters. Such governmental intransigence requires all AIDS volunteers to protect themselves from the sort of mistreatment. It have received for my effects treatment I have received for my efforts.

My limited experience has taught me never again

to volunteer services in my own name and to consider as a donation any loan I may make to someone with AIDS, since the government is likely to penalize my actions and confiscate my property in return.

Richard Gaver

Reporting the non-reporters

The following was sent to Mayor Willie Brown:] Dear Mayor Brown,

I wish to make you aware of the lack of any annual reports from the San Francisco health department's AIDS Office in the past four years. The most recent annual report for this city agency dates back to fiscal years 1990-91 and 1991-92. That report offers detailed analysis of the AIDS office's activities in combating the AIDS office's activities in combating the AIDS office's activities in com-

tailed analysis of the AIDS office's activities in combating the AIDS epidemic in our city.

If I were advising you on AIDS issues, I would ask that you immediately request annual reports from the AIDS office for the fiscal years 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95, and 1995-96. Once you have such reports in hand, and the gay public has had ample time to digest and debate the reports, I expect you would contemplate and implement better ways of stopping the spread of AIDS and proper care for AIDS victims.

As you no doubt know, Sandra R. Hernandez, M.D., current director of the public health department, and Mitchell Katz, M.D., longtime director of the AIDS office, prepared and supervised the last annual report on the state of AIDS in San Francisco. suspect they could quickly gather the necessary data needed for their annual reports on AIDS, should you so direct them. Such reports would help you, and gay San Franciscans, chart an effective course of action to fight AIDS in 1996.

tive course of action to fight AIDS in 1996. Please do not allow another month to pass without Hernandez and Katz submitting their detailed annual reports on AIDS.

> Michael Petrelis San Francisco

Mission impossible on Air France

Permit me to attract your attention to the discrimination or homophobia of which certain Air France (the French national airline company) employees must deal with for reasons of their sexual orientation. You are undoubtedly aware that at Air France, like all major and minor airline companies, each company employee benefits from transportation opportunities for him/herself and their "loved ones." This opportunity permits them to obtain, for example, if they are flight crew, a reduced-price ticket for

ple, if they are flight crew, a reduced-price ticket for their children, their spouses or their "partners" so that they may accompany them for Christmas, New Year's, a simple birthday or during their vacation. This privilege is quite justified when one is aware of the difficulties for airlines personnel to lead a well-adjusted social or family life when he/she spends the better part of his/her time far away from home.

I am myself a flight attendant, which is the reason why I am writing this letter. An Air France agent of heterosexual orientation can obtain this transportation opportunity for his/her partner in quite a simple fashion: it suffices to make a simple declaration on one's word. But if your "partner" happens to be of the same sex as your own, it is "mission impossible." In order to spend New Year's or a birthday together, your partner must pay the full-fare price, whereas the rest of the crew, if not gay, may choose to spend this time of the crew, if not gay, may choose to spend this time together with their loved ones (boy/girl friend, wife, husband and children).

On many occasions I have addressed my concerns to the competent Air France service in order to know if change in company policy is being considered only to learn that Air France has no intentions of innovation in this matter. While the Air France aligns itself with the competition in a number of areas, it seems to have escaped the management that other European airlines companies (SAS, KLM, Lufthansa, Aer Lingus, Swissair, British Airways) and North American airlines companies no longer engage in this type of ridiculous discrimination. Moreover, AF should abide by the European Parliament Recommendation concerning sexual orientation, and here as well, Air

cerning sexual orientation, and here as well, Air France seems blocked.

To take an example, perhaps a little extreme but quite revealing, if your wife/husband were to die, AF would automatically accord several days of mourning for the deceased. For myself on the contrary, if my lover were to die, I would have no other resource than to enter into a long explanation with my management in order to obtain several days off. This hypocrisy and flagrant injustice should be stopped.

In whatever way it is possible, could you spend some time of reflection on this subject. Perhaps some attention could be attracted on this issue. Must one go as far as to suggest a boycott of Air France from the Gay and Lesbian community? I do only know that AF mentality must evolve, and I would appreciate any assistance you might offer.

Ar inclinary fluis evolve, and I would appreciate any assistance you might offer.

Does France, the birthplace of the Rights of Man, consider all her citizens to be equal? In the hope that this injustice may be repaired, I submit my thanks to

Hubert Perdigon Paris, France

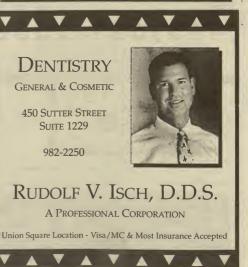












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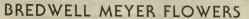
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LETTERS

Fundamentalist trap

[The following was sent to Senator Barbara Boxer:] I heard vou interviewed on KPFA about same sex marriages the other day and feel compelled to re-

pond.

The Detense of Marriage Act | DoMA) may be an election year ploy by fundamentalist Christians, but Democrats don't need to fall into their trap. The Christians have set up a contradiction that you can point out. On the one hand they denounce homo-sexuals for "living in sin," and for being selfish and uncommitted. On the other hand they would refuse us the right to marry, which demonstrates commit-ment and responsibility. They can't have it both ways.

Not only Democrats, but many Republicans, are fed up with fundamentalist Christian shenanigans. This is an opportunity not only to take a progressive stand, but to exploit differences among the Republi-cans. It's true many people are opposed to same sex marriage at this time, but it's an issue of fairness and equal rights under the law. If you take a firm position now and defend it, in the long run it will help you.

Those who would oppose you on this issue will probably oppose you anyway.
Finally, you will need to vote either yes or no on the DoMA. Are you going to run scared and forsake a constituency that has supported you throughout your career, or lead on the issue, as we elect our lead-

Charlie Hinton

Animals and polio vaccine

Animals and polio vaccine

In a May 9th article titled "PETA vs. Getty: Enemies to the Marrow?" B.A.R. reported on the back and forth arguments between the animal rights organization PETA and AIDS activist Jeff Getty over the value of cross-species bone marrow transplantation. Probably the most interesting part of the article is the last sentence when Jeff Getty is quoted as saying. "If animal rights activists had their way 50 years ago, we'd be sitting around talking about all the hundreds of thousands of people dying from polio, not AIDS." This sentence is of interest because looking back at the history of polio one would find ample evidence to argue against animal research and a clear connec-tion to current issues in AIDS research.

The history of the discovery of the polio vaccine is

The history of the discovery of the polio vaccine is often misinterpreted. Animal experiments are usually given credit for being the foundation of the discovery of the vaccine. However, the most important advance in polio research was when Enders, Weller and Robbins cultivated the polio virus in human tissue. Despite this breakthrough, Salk and Sabin, who are usually credited for the discovery of the polio vaccine, continued their reliance on traditional animal models and the use of monkey tissue. Sabin himself stated the harmful effect of following this research path when he testified to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs in 1984 stating, "...work on prevention [of polio] was delayed by an erroneous conception of the nature of the human disease, based on misleading experimental models [of polio] in monmisleading experimental models [of polio] in mon-keys." This erroneous conception of the human disease held up the polio vaccine for years. There have been countless similar erroneous assumptions of AIDS based on primate models of that disease.

Another interesting connection between the development of a vaccine for polio and the current AIDS epidemic is the origin of AIDS. One of the leading theories is that AIDS was initially a primate virus that mutated and was transferred to human beings. Many researchers feel that one of the most likely routes for infecting the human population was tainted polio vaccine that was grown in baboon tissue cul-ture. One of the tragic consequences of focusing at-tention on animal studies in the fight against polio is

that the safer method of producing the vaccine in human tissue was shelved for many years.

Lastly, a few years back AIDS activities had to sue the government to test potential new AIDS therapies before the usual three years of animal studies were completed. Some argued that potential therapies might be overlooked because animal studies would not provide positive results that may be seen in humans. At that time animal rights activists, who have questioned the efficacy of animal research for many years, were behind those AIDS activists who wanted an adequate system to address the research dilemmas they faced.

Jeff Getty would like to paint animal activists as enemies of people living with disease. We may differ with him on the efficacy and ethics of animal research, but we do not have any less compassion for the suffering of people than we do for other species of

Dean Smith Outreach Director, American Anti-Vivisection Society Jenkintown, PA

[The editor responds: Your actions speak louder than your well-ordered words. Keep repeating that last sentence until you believe it. We don't.]

Try Italy

Well, I've lived here for six months now – and, be-lieve me, this puppy ain't missing Kent, Ohio not one little bit! But I gotta admit: San Francisco has one major, bone-chilling flaw. There just aren't enough ITALIAN men here.

Which is, now that I think of it, pretty much the

problem with the rest of the world, too

Tre'Quanda Jones

Transgender rigidity

In her letter in the 30 May issue, Gail Sondegaard disputes the claim that the "transgender community" has become a place of ideological rigidity. However, despite all the petty internecine squabbling within the despite all the petry internecine squabbling within the trans community. I have found it to be a place of remarkable uniformity of thought when it comes to fundamental assumptions. In personal correspondence I exchanged with Gail regarding my reasons for ceasing publication of TransSisters, I stated that it is impossible to be a trans activist without also being a postmodernist, a conception which she did not disimpossible to be a trans activist without also being a postmodernist, a contention which she did not dispute. The fact that postmodernism is the only ideological viewpoint which is tolerated within the "transgender movement" is unequivocally demonstrated by the facts that every single transgender theorist currently being published is likewise a postmodernist, and that the postmodernist assumptions underlying all of transgender theory are never questioned. Any community which accepts only one philosophical viewpoint certainly fits my definition of ideologically rigid, despite whatever petty points of disagreely rigid, despite whatever petty points of disagree-ment it might tolerate. Postmodernism might be a loose-fitting intellectual straitjacket, but it's an intel-

lectual straitjacket nonetheless.

I also pointed out to Gail that the underlying assumptions of postmodernism inevitably lead to a po-sition of "morally mandating lesbianism out of exis-tence" even if it is not explicitly stated as such, another point which she did not dispute. It becomes pretty clear from an overview of transgender theory that even those persons who do not wish to eliminate lesbianism as a category want to redefine it to a point that renders it absolutely meaningless, which, in effect, is

the same as morally mandating it out of existence.

The fact that the "transgender community" has become a rigidly ideological place is likewise demon-

become a rigidly ideological place is likewise demonstrated by the fact that on numerous occasions I have been told that something that I believe can not possibly be true for no other reason than that it differs with the beliefs of Leslie Feinberg. Any community that elevates one individual's beliefs to such an unquestionable status instead of judging ideas on their individual merits certainly fits my definition of an ideologically rigid environment.

Gail's contention that I was the only person to take Martine Rothblatt's book The Apartheid of Sex seriously is not only completely inaccurate, but is also downright insulting. I certainly did not take this ridiculous book seriously in the least bit. In fact, I considered it to be the most pretentious, banal, intellectually dishonest piece of pseudo-intellectual claptrap that I have ever read in my life. However, this book is indeed being taken very seriously within the book is indeed being taken very seriously within the "transgender community" at large. Martine's book has received very high praise from such transgender luminaries as Kate Bornstein, Dallas Denny and Sandy Stone. Transgender Tapestry magazine even published a glowing review of it comparing it to *The Second Sex.* But most significantly, shortly following its publication, the International Conference on its publication, the International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy (ICTLEP) revised its "International Bill of Gender Rights" to in-clude a provision consistent with Martine's central thesis that anyone has a right to be in whatever space – including private space – he or she desires to be in regardless of what kind of genitals he or she has and regardless of how anyone else in those spaces feels

I have been involved in a lot of social movements in my lifetime beginning with the counterculture of the 1960s, all the way through the trans movement of the 1990s. I have encountered some degree of ideo-logical rigidity in all of them. However, the "trans-gender movement" is unquestionably the most per-vasively ideologically rigid of them all.

Davina Anne Gabriel Publisher & Editor TransSisters: the Journal of Transsexual Feminism Kansas City, Missouri

The B.A.R. welcomes signed, mailed letters to the editor; anonymous and faxed letters will not be published.

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Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

Handwritten letters will be considered for publication only if clearly legible. In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. Letters may be edited for length or other appropriate consideration.

Abortion: Bob Dole's unborn problem

by Wayne Friday

ry as he might, the Republiry as he might, the Republican presidential nominee-in-waiting, **Boh Dole**, simply cannot get his party to put the explosive abortion issue aside in the hopes of furthering his chances of becoming president. Dole is headed for a raucous, explosive national nominating convention in San Diego in August vention in San Diego in August –

vention in San Diego in August – and he knows it.

A few weeks ago, Mr. Dole thought he had placated both sides of the abortion issue within his party by suggesting "tolerance" for those pro-choice Republicans, particularly the GOP women voters, who went no part of the Reers, who want no part of the Republicans' hard-line anti-abortion party platform plank. While it's party platform plank. While it's okay to use that word – "tolerance" – on the campaign trail, Dole's Christian Right supporters informed him, don't even think of getting a "tolerance towards prochoice Republicans" in the party platform.

Last week, only a couple of days later. Dole

ple of days later, Dole was busy telling Republi-cans in Walnut Creek that he was "positive" the split on abortion will "be healed" before the August confab. Clearly, Mr. **Our Man Friday**

Dole was about to make an effort to appease the abortion opponent delegates already selected to attend the con-

arready selected to attend the convention, those whom he had alienated the week before with his "tolerance" language proposal.

Citizen Dole even assured his party that he was "personally" meeting with Representative Henry Hyde (R-III.), a strong anti-abortion conservative who will oversee this way? COP plat. will oversee this year's GOP plat-form as chairperson, to "work things out," adding, "it's a piece of things out," adding, "it's a piece of cake." Sure enough, Dole and Hyde met a couple of days later for several hours, but after their highly publicized meeting, both ducked a waiting throng of reporters outside Dole's Washington campaign headquarters.

Something went wrong. Sources close to the two men admitted that nothing was said about the abortion issue other than both Dole and Hyde reiterating their "strongly held views" against the practice and their agreement that "the Republican Party must consider recognized. Party must somehow recognize that there is indeed a diversity of

views among Republicans on this and other issues."

"The meeting was a bust," wailed a highly placed campaign strategist, suggesting that Mr. Hyde clearly wasn't buying Bob "tolerance" language attached to the abortion plank itself. Mr. Hyde and other conservatives in control of the platform commitcontrol of the platform commit-tee for the Republicans want no such language in any part of the platform, but might be convinced to place it only in the preamble, so it could be interpreted to cover all issues on which Republicans may disagree

Enter Pat Buchanan, Ralph Reed and Phyllis Schlafly. This week all three were making noises warning of an "all-out" fight at the convention over the abortion



Pat Buchanan has continued to be yet another thorn in Bob Dole's side

issue. Bay Buchanan, Pat's outspoken sister and campaign manager, was even hinting that the

pro-Buchanan forces may walk away from Christian-controlled GOP conven-tion if Dole persists in trying to appease the pro-choice Re-

publicans.

"We are going to have this all resolved before the convention," Bob Dole

was telling reporters last week. "Wishful thinking," snapped one of Christian Coalition boss Ralph Reed's top aides.

Dole has reportedly scheduled

another meeting on the abortion issue this weekend – this one with those on the Religious Right who not only want to be assured there will be no "offensive" language in the GOP platform about "toler-ace" but also went an extrarge. ance" but also want an assurance from Dole that they will have approval over his vice-presidential running mate. The former Senate majority leader is said to be concerned that he will fare no better at this meeting than he did with Hyde. Given everything that's happened so far, he has good reason to be worried

Politics and poker

Politics and poker
Then there's Ross Perot's Reform Party! They announced last week that they will open their convention in Long Beach on August 11 – one day before the GOP meets 100 miles down the freeway. The Reformists will then reconvene in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, on August 18 (a week before the Democratic Convention) to name their nominees. Three to name their nominees. Three guesses as to who will be heading the ticket, and the first two don't

Despite the so-called "character gap," President Bill Clinton, according to the latest USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll, enjoys a Today/CNN/Gallup Poll, enjoys a 19-point lead, 57%-38%, over Bob Dole. This week's ABC-Washington Post poll puts Clinton an impressive 20 points ahead, with both polls suggesting that the boost Dole got after resigning from the Senate was only temporary.

rary.
An overflow crowd at Senator
Dianne Feinstein's birthday
party Saturday night, with political big names aplenty there to
wish DiFi the best. The senator,

looking quite soignée, accepted birthday congrats from the crowd, but there was no talk about how many candles were on the cake! Dianne's daughter, **Katherine Feinstein**, was busily thanking all those who were telling her that her mom should be our next governor. No word from the good senator herself on the subject, but

senator herself on the subject, but if it's a "go," count me in.

The CDC in Atlanta recently revealed that AIDS is now the leading cause of death for all Americans ages 25-44, while the Bob Dole-Newt Gingrich Congress is still trying to cut back on gress is still trying to cut back on funds for AIDS research and pre-

tunds for AIDS research and prevention.

Famed LA feminist attorney Gloria Allred was right on target with her comments about 0.J. Simpson's Brentwood fundraiser for a group fighting spousal abuse and other forms of violence: "Any organization dedicated to stopping violence should not use Mr. Simpson or allow him to use them ping violence should not use Mr. Simpson or allow him to use them in connection with their campaign. It's very clear he is only involved in a public relations campaign on a grand scale to spitshine his image and to try to erase from the public's memory the kind of person he really is."

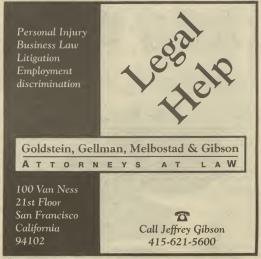
Even though I admire Jeff Getty greatly (though I've never met him) and I love animals (particularly dogs), I'm not about to get into the AIDS research/animal rights flap. However, I will excerpt

ights flap. However, I will excerpt letter from a reader on the subject: "I was pleased to read about Jeff Getty and his plans to lead a counter-protest against People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Medical and pharmaceutical research in general are threatened by a zealous concern for the per-ceived 'rights' of animals. PETA and the more extreme groups it fronts for represent an irrational strain of the Luddite ideology that, through research obstruc-tion, is almost certainly responsible for more deaths than the Un-abomber." – (signed) A reader from Campbell, California.

Longtime friends and supporters of former DA **Arlo Smith** are holding a "San Francisco Salutes Arlo" reception for him at The Press Club, 555 Post St., 5:30-7:30 p.m., on July 11 in recognition of his 16 years as SF's district attorney. Donations are \$100 and up; call Susan Wolfe at 928-2992 for

more information.
See you at The Parade on Sunday ... and enjoy! ▼









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I love San Fran in June

by Beth Elliott

ow 'bout you? There are too many fun Pride Day events packed into too little time (darn!). And this June, San Francisco honored the best public relations person a city ever had, columnist Herb Caen, with a public celebration to name a waterfront promenade after him. Any San Francisco columnist would be remiss if she didn't give Herb a nod or a tip o' the cap. Mine comes in the form of an item he let a bunch of literary lesbians reprint.

canonizing Cae out June 14 to the distribution of Siters magazine (San Francisco Daughters of Bilitis' successor to The Ladder) over attempts to "oversee" her work, gathered some other disaffected Daughters to produce a new zine called Sapphire. Sapphire, like too many other interesting alternative lesbian publications (Los Angeles' Portcullis comes to mind), ran out of money and ceased publication after two is-

after two issues. But the first inside front cover ran (with permission) a Herb Caen item.

Herb Caen item.

The item was about an out-ofthe-closet professor or researcher
at Stanford (or was it Berkeley?)
confronted on campus by a street
preacher shouting at him the
message that "Homosexuals will
be damned!" Looking at the Bible
the preacher was waving, he asked
what version it was. "King James,"
the haranguer replied. "Did you
know that King James was a homessyual?" he asked

know that King James was a homosexual?" he asked. The preacher, stunned, could only respond, "Well, I'll be damned!"

Caengratulations, Herb! This space will be looking forward to your 50th anniversary in two years – and many more columns after that. Best wishes for defeating the evil lung cancer.

Eternal ups and downs

There's another reason I wanted to share that anecdote, one that has a lot to do with pride. We're never going to live in a world in which we never run the risk of some yahoo (not to be confused with Yahoo! the search engine 'cause yahoos are clueless, but definitely to be confused with Yahoo the War God — one translation of Yahweh Sabaoth) harassing us for loving/having sex with folks of the same gender, declining to play along with patriarchal gender expectations, etc. Even while living our lives proudly and freely, we'll always have some ups and downs.



Canonizing Caen: Scenemeister Herb Caen greets his subjects who turned out June 14 to dedicate the Embarcadero walkway as Herb Caen Way.

However, I do suspect that, given we've come further faster than anyone could have imagined pre-Stonewall, or even shortly after Stonewall, we can continue to improve our situation in this society. One meaning of pride, to me, is to be clever and witty and happy in the face of opposition. It will prevent a lot of ulcers on our part and bug the living daylights out of those

out of those who want us to live in shame. Pride is making the best out of the hand we've been dealt-while working to upgrade the deck – and doing our, well, damnedest to have a life.

The (unaccent by

to have a life.

The (unacceptable) alternative is to see ourselves as victims. Sure, sometimes we get victimized, but when you accept that self-concept, you say that more of the circumstances of your life are irredeemably out of your control than are in your power to do at least some small thing about. No matter how much you can or cannot get done by trying, this is the first step to defeat thinking like a loser.

This is one of the reasons that I spend more time than I'd like

This is one of the reasons that I spend more time than I'd like with this column railing against the mentality that looks for some vaguely conceived centralized power to make everything better. That mentality looks to and magnifies situations in which we're one-down, power-wise, instead of affirming our initiative and creativity (of which we often claim to have more than straight people).

Another reason is my mistrust of any power structure that strong, even if it operates in the name of "the people." "The people" supposedly means all of us, unless we have too good a life and too many resources. In reality, it too often means whoever's managed to finagle their way into being able to claim to speak for "the people."

Nauseating features

Donald C. Bliss of Berkeley re-

cently wrote to this paper saying he feared my writing, which he'd admired, had become anti-PC in less of a critical and more of a knee-jerk way. He said he feared that I was uncritical of American culture and society. Thanks for asking; I hope not. I'm very conflicted about this society, because some of its features are for the ages, while others make me gag.

ages, while others make me gag.
There is no shortage of writers in the lesbian/gay media calling this society to account for its shortcomings. There are few, however, who sound any note of caution or skepticism about either the "pop progressivism" phenomenon, in which it is assumed that welfare statism will put a chicken (or tofu) in every pot and usher in peaceful harmony, or the assumption that any lesbian or gay man of good will takes pop progressivism and its amorphous collectivist underpinnings as a given.

tivist underpinnings as a given.
We need skeptics who think more deeply. How 'bout some-body who experienced the lesbian 1970s firsthand and became disillusioned with the notion that our "revolution" would make everything wonderful? In our "women's community,' there was conformity, tyranny, and viciousness where we expected a sisterly utopia. Somebody who, when she says society's resources should be redistributed, assumes they all belong to society, not to individuals. Somebody who fears some kind of open season on the income, possessions, well-being, and good reputation of whoever gets branded politically incorrect this week. These are harsh words, indeed but I fear for us should nobody nag us to stop and think, because in this election year, the rhetoric we lesbian/gayl/queer folks are expected to agree with as a matter of course is getting highly inflated.

This Pride Day, we'll get to see that our community is too large

This Pride Day, we'll get to see that our community is too large and too diverse to have any set of standardized views put forth as what "we" believe uncritically. It's out of anyone's control. And I don't think anything could make me happier – or more proud. \(\neq \)



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No joke: 200 expected at SF Girth and Mirth conference

by Dennis Conkin

an Francisco Girth and Mirth, the historic social club for big gay men, will celebrate its 20th anniversary during a three-day Gay Pride weekend regional conference at the Golden Gate Holiday Inn, located at Californis Street and Van Merc

at California Street and Van Ness. The regional conference of the Affiliated BigMen's Clubs is expected to draw an estimated 200 people, according to spokesman

people, according to spokesman Dennis Kruszynski.

Among the offerings are social events and workshops, including a groundbreaking workshop on political organizing by the Na-tional Association to Aid Fat Americans, a powerful lobby against fat bias.

Friday and Saturday events in-clude dinner-dances with music by famous Lone Star Saloon DJ

Reggie Jackson.

The group will also celebrate
Pride Day festivities with a Girth
and Mirth/San Francisco float in
the annual San Francisco parade.

Kruszynski told the Bay Area Reporter that clubs like Girth and Mirth provide a place for gay big men to socialize and meet other big men, and men who admire

"Big men are often not wel-come in conventional gay places, such as bars," he said. Kruszynski pointed out that gay big men who want to patron-

ize those gay establishments often find themselves unwelcome, or the brunt of fat jokes and sarcastic comments about their physical

Also, he said, gay men who are attracted to big men often find themselves victims of discrimination in a society where advertising idealizes young and thin looks. They find themselves dismissed or trivialized as "chubby chasers," he said. "The social stigma cuts two

ways."

Kruszynski told the Bay Area Reporter that when he became involved in the big men's movement about a year and a half ago, he was suffering from severe size-related low self-esteem. "I was a serious basket case.

I was a serious basket case. My self-esteem was zilch," he said. Through the camaraderie and "safe haven" he's received because of his involvement with Girth and Mirth, Kruszynski said he has been able to find self-acceptance, and his self-image and self-accep-

tance have increased.

Kruszynski told the Bay Area Reporter that because Girth and Reporter that because Girth and Mirth is a club for big gay men and their admirers, people may get the mistaken notion that the group is a sex club of some sort. "They are not sex clubs. They provide a place for people to socialize and meet. It's like an affinity group," he said.

Kruszynski also said that in addition to painful emotional rejection because of their size, far peo-

tion because of their size, fat peo-ple also suffer serious economic discrimination throughout their lives when they are not hired or denied promotions because of their weight. ▼

What's up down south



cigar-chompin' Lea DeLaria lets it all hang out and then some as she moons a group of seven Bible thumpers at the LA Gay Day Parade June 23. The fundles were standing in the so-called Free Speech Zone, but the self-professed "queer brat" proved once again that actions sometimes speak louder than words.





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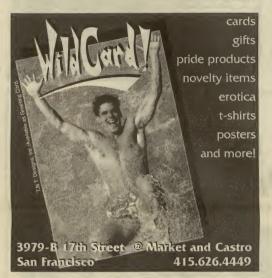
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Gay business internetworking coming soon to SF computers

'If we get a response, we'll open a chapter'

by Jim Emerson

group for gay and lesbian entrepreneurs called the Community Business Networkers is coming out to do some

online business networking on the internet after summer ends. CBN plans to sponsor regular-ly-scheduled online sessions to create more business opportunicreate more business opportunities for existing members, and to recruit new members. "We'll have a business version of an online chat room," says Mary Giuliani, 36, founder and president of CBN. "We're in the process of putting it all together."

CBN is a non-profit organization based in Huntington Beach, California, with 650 members and seven chapters scattered throughout Southern California. Members of CBN also hobnob at monthly meet-

CBN also hobnob at monthly meetings to develop business contacts

and share workplace experiences.
Giuliani expects CBN to expand beyond Southern California after it goes online. Depending on the volume of e-mail it receives the volume of e-mail it receives and response to online meetings, CBN plans to open new chapters so members who live close so each can also network in person. "Technically, we'll be global, and if we get a big response from a region, we'll open a chapter there," she says.

Most CBN members are self-employed professionals who join to promote their businesses. They include lawyers, sypchotherapists and morteage bankers. "They're

and mortgage bankers. "They're almost all service industry people who get their business through word of mouth or personal con

tacts," says Giuliani.
"Our community has a lot of economic power that can have an impact on a political level," she adds. The combined consumer purchasing power of all U.S. gays and lesbians may be as high as \$500 million annually, according some marketing research

estimates.

CBN's goal is to promote businesses owned by lesbians and gays, although the ultimate objective is use economic power to gain polit-**Out For Business**

ical power to fight against discrimina-

tion based on sexual orientation. which is why non-gays who sup-port civil rights equality are wel-

port civil rights equality are wel-come to join, too. About ten to 15 percent of the members of CBN are gay-friendly heterosexuals. "What's ironic about our orga-nization, though, is that everyone assumes you're gay," Guiliani says, "unless you come out – as being straight."

CBN was founded in August 1992 by Giuliani and a former co-worker whom Giuliani knew when she was a manager for the Women's Referral Network, a Sherman Oaks-based career net-

working organization.

Giuliani modeled CBN after
the Women's Referral Network and made it structurally similar to 12-step support groups. "CBN is very much like a support group: We have featured speakers and we

all share our experiences to support each other," she says.
"I am a very personal-growth and spiritually-oriented person,"
Giuliani says. "I believe anybody can have anything they want in life if they help other people life if they help other people achieve what they want."

Typically, older or more experientrepreneurs mentor younger or less experienced entre-preneurs during and after meet-ings. Members all introduce them-selves to the group at the beginning of meetings and later are encour-

of meetings and later are encouraged to exchange business cards to get telephone numbers.

Monthly meetings include discussions on selected business topics during dinners. After dinner, featured speakers discuss their personal cuss their personal experiences

in overcoming business obstacles to

resolve problems. "They also get a chance to display information about the product or service they sell," Giuliani savs.

CBN is trying to establish more free links with various gayoriented web pages to increase the number of people clicking on its web page. CBN also plans to buy cyberspace advertising in databas-es maintained by companies that

do keyword search services com-monly used to surf the internet. CBN's strategy for growth in-cludes promoting its web site more aggressively, so its internet address (http://www.ccweb.com/ con) pops up on computer screens more often for potential members to see. "You cannot accomplish much with a web site unless you promote it," Giuliani adds.

Community Business Networkers can be reached in Huntington Beach at (800) 404-4226 or (714) 842-8344. Address items for Out For Business to: Jim Emerson, P.O Box 14604, San Francisco CA



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SF gay square dancers to host int'l confab July 4th weekend

by Hakeem Oseni II

ne of the nicer things about living in the gay capital of the world is that you can always find yourself a little niche in your community.

On July 3-6, five local Bay Area source death will be the source death will be the source death will be the source death.

square dance clubs will host the 13th Annual International Associ-13th Annual International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs Convention - Stars, Thars, & Cablecars - at the Hyatt Regency in the Embarcadero Center.

"This is a major gay event that is happening in the city," said Allan Berenstein, Secretary to the Convention Board. "We are ex-

pecting 1,100 dancers from 70 clubs, from throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia and England."

Host clubs are the Foggy City Dancers, Gold Rush, Midnight Squares, Western Stars (all San Francisco based); the El Camino Reelers, Palo Alto; the Diablo Dancers, Concord; and Prime-8's and the Capital City Squares of Sacramento.

Sacramento.

"It's basically gays and lesbians square dancing intensely for four days," said Larry Beyer, board member of the Foggy City Dancers, one of the local clubs hosting the event.

"Square dancing is something you have to learn," Beyer ex-plained. "It's almost like a team sport or game.

"It's fun and good exercise. It's

not like other dancing. You don't really need to count rhythm, you just need to be able to remember and act quickly."

The convention brings much

support to the Bay Area's growing square dance clubs. Tickets are \$165, which includes square dancing classes all day, club photos of everybody, meetings with international delegates, the taking in of new clubs from other cities, dinner at the Hyatt and a host of other activities, such as the Fun Badge Tour on Sunday, July 7 – where "some 350 dancers will load into chartered vehicles and dance at various historical and

public sites around the city," Berenstein told the B.A.R.

There will also be all kinds of

special "tips" or dances: bear tips, leather tips, women's tips, pagan

leather tips, women's tips, pagan tips, and more.

"The convention is a great opportunity to work with some of the finest gay and straight callers, such as Anne Vebelaeker and Andy Shore," Beyer noted.

"It's far different being a gay square dancer, because the calls are based on a very sexist tradition of dancing," Beyer explained.
"You could have a lesbian doing a man's part – so you have to be sharper." He added that dancers sometimes wear scarves or vests to differentiate between partici-

sometimes wear scarves of vests to differentiate between participants performing different roles.

The music varies from "Hello, Dolly!" to square dance versions of your favorite pop tunes. There are even gay versions of certain steps such as the "Do si do" and "Weave the Ring" and, of course, campy responses to calls – such as Vera! for "veer to the right," and He's no top! to "spin the top."

He's no top! to "spin the top."
Beyer explained that people such as Henry Ford and Marjorie Merriweather Post brought square dancing to the forefront of US culture and helped preserve it. The dancing is based on moves from all over the world and took years to standardize, so that a dancer can go anywhere in the dancer can go anywhere in the world and square dance. ▼

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From healers to heelers:

AIDS experts let their hair down

by Dennis Conkin

enowned for their awesomely big hair, pathetically fabulous drag ensembles, and some of the best a cappella music you will ever hear. The Kinsey Sicks have returned from their triumphant Midwest Tour and are now appearing on the stage at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint through Wednesday-Sundays June 30.

Acclaimed as American's fa-

vorite drag and "beautyshop quartet," the singing sensation is performing "Sicks-Tease," a new hour and a half show, according to Rachel, a chanteuse with the group.

"We'll sing special and unique versions of some old sixties fa-vorites," she told the Bay Area Reporter, "but I don't want to spoil

When Rachel's not busy shim-mying her way through the hearts of hungering and adoring fans she shares a body with Ben Schatz, the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association Executive Director and internationally known civil rights attorney.

Also performing as members of the Kinsey Sicks are Maurice Kelly as Trixie, Jerry Friedman as Vaselina Dildona, and Irwin Keller as Winnie. Friedman is a doctoral



Ben Schatz (left) and his Kinsey Sicks alter ego, Rachel (right).

candidate and audiologist. Kelly is a Levi Strauss and Co. executive. Keller is the executive director of AIDS Legal Referral Panel.
Rachel told the B.A.R. that

reservations are suggested for the quartet's performances.

"And," she promised, "there are some surprises in our show. It's a lot of fun, but not for the faint of

Rachel says the quartet gets along as fabulously on stage as off despite the fact that she must share the limelight with three

Dildona agrees that the group is a tight and cohesive group of performers, and said she's espe-cially appreciative of Winnie's contributions over the 2.5 years

the group has been performing.

"I love Winnie. She's like my
mother. She's the matron of the
group," Dildona said.

"Sisterhood is powerful,"
Rachel told the B.A.R., "even
though we all do have awfully big
hair."

Tickets for the Kinsey Sicks'
"Sick-Tease" are \$12 for the
Wednesday-Sunday 8 p.m.
shows. An extra 10 p.m. show on
Friday, June 28 has been added.

For more information contact Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint at 3583 16th Street (at Market) or call (415) 861-7933.

For a review of the show, see page 85.

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Health department's part-time gay advocacy raises concern

held the double position for the past two years, told the B.A.R. that the decision to attach the gay co-

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by Cynthia Laird

t's a "hybrid" job, consisting of two distinct elements: the San Francisco Department of Public Health's coordinator of lesbian/gay health services also han-dles discrimination complaints as an equal employment opportuni-

ty specialist.

It wasn't always that way, however, and it has some people con-cerned.

the decision to attach the gay co-ordinator job to the Health De-partment's equal employment op-portunity department was made when he was hired two years ago. "I divide time working on dis-crimination complaints and les-bian and gay health services," he said. "It's a hybrid job, I don't spend all my time on sexual mic.

said. "It's a hybrid job, I don't spend all my time on sexual minority groups."

In the equal employment opportunity capacity, Van Gorder handles discrimination complaints; some of those are filed by lesbians and gay men, he explained.

Van Gorder said a hig part of

Van Gorder said a big part of his job involves increasing sensi-tivity to gay and lesbian issues within the public health depart-ment and its 6,500 employees. He also said his office is a good source of information and referral for

people in the gay community.

However, at least one San
Francisco AIDS activist wants Van Gorder to revive a community advisory committee to discuss is-

AIDS activist Michael Petrelis told the B.A.R. he feels the advisory committee should act as a watchdog over the public health department. He also said that while he wouldn't want to serve on such a committee, he would actively participate as a citizen.

"I believe more gays and lesbians should have input into health department policies," Petrelis said. "That's my understanding of what the committee used to do.

"The two top priorities of the AIDS activist Michael Petrelis

"The two top priorities of the gay advocate should be AIDS and breast cancer among lesbians, and I don't think either are being ade-

van Gorder acknowledged that the committee used to exist, and told the B.A.R., "I would not be opposed to trying it again." But, he said, "It's difficult to know heave when a crown would be compared to the committee of the comm how such a group would be composed."

Van Gorder said he tried a couple of years ago to bring to-gether representatives of various community groups, but the committee "never really quite materialized."

"When I started, we had a very large group of providers and community-based people," he said, "but the process kind of fell apart for a variety of reasons.

'It's not being done'

Pat Norman, who first had the position Van Gorder now holds, says she hoped the job would be expanded, not cut to half-time

Norman, who served as coordinator for lesbian and gay health services for nine of her 15 years with the health department, said she provided numerous training and outreach services involving healthcare professionals and members of the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgender commu-

nity.
"It's not being done now,"
Norman said in an interview with
the B.A.R. "The position should
certainly be full-time. A commu-



Dana Van Gorder.

nity as diverse as ours should have consistent overview, and I don't think it [the position] belongs with equal employment opportu-

Norman left the position in 1986, and now serves as the executive director for the Institute for Community Health and Outreach. She is also vice president and the only lesbian on the city's Police Commission.

Police Commission.

Van Gorder said that although he would be happy to concentrate full time on queer health issues, the decision to combine the two jobs was made in the wake of health department budget and staff reductions over the past sev-

star reductions over the past several years.

"The function of the position now is coordinating services within the department," he said. "I work a lot with a variety of different groups to expand and improve services."

Van Gorder also said he works

Van Gorder also said he works a lot with Dr. Sandra Hernandez, the openly lesbian city health di-rector, whom he called a "great advocate for queer health services" in the community.

"Dr. Hernandez is committed

"Dr. Hernandez is committed that programs are in good shape and that we maintain a good level of service here," he said.

For his part, Van Gorder said he is trying to attract more membership to "a coordinating committee within the department that meets monthly and discusses issues." He also said he's planning to bring together a group of lesbians to identify lesbian health issues. "Lesbians tend not to seek

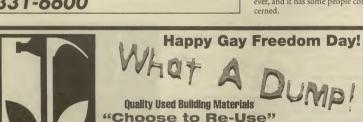
"Lesbian health issues.
"Lesbians tend not to seek health treatment, in large part because they aren't dealt with sensitively or appropriately," he said. "I want to convene a group to look at provider education around les-bian health issues, and develop an

bian health issues, and develop an education program for physicians and healthcare workers in public health and the private world."

Van Gorder said he has been viewed as having "controversial" ideas regarding HIV/AIDS prevention.

'I have been critical and do Thave been critical and do want more sophisticated programs," he said, including programs that help HIV-negative men develop more social skills and self-esteem, which end up

and self-esteem, which end up being preventive. "Programs bring guys in to discuss life, and life in the gay male community," Van Gorder said. "Those have kind of been controversial ideas until now." ▼



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Susan Buchbinder, MD

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Community Forum

NGLTF won't join animal testing consensus

hree organizations were conspicuous in their absence from the consensus statement on the use of laboratory animals in HIV/AIDS research and treatment released last week.

The National Minority AIDS Council's David Barry attributed it to "a hectic month" where the group didn't "officially respond in time for the press conference." He says NMAC supports the statement.

Human Rights Campaign (HRC) spokesman David Smith could offer "no specific reason why we did not sign on." He said they were "absolutely" in support of the principles embodied in the

statement.

At the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Deputy Directory Kerry Lobel said NGLTF "made a decision not to sign on."

She calls it "a very delicate dilemma" and "would have preferred stronger language that talks about the kinds of mistreatment there have been with animal testing in the past."

Lobel sees problems in enforcement of current laws regulating medical testing on animals, and believes that perhaps the laws do not go far enough. But more importantly, she believes, "We have to have a serious discussion as a community about what price we are willing to pay for science.

"There may be specific cases where we would feel that animal testing was appropriate, given that very specific steps had been taken to insure that this was the only alternative."

She says it is "a critical issue" where "the dialogue needs to continue." But she doubted that NGLTF would grapple with it "in this calendar year."

—Bob Roehr

- Bob Roehr

PETAphile zap

that kills people with weakened immune systems, as "clear evi-dence that their terrorist acts against research have killed peo-

against research have killed peo-ple with AIDS.

"When the history of this epi-demic is written," Michael said, "the gay men that support PETA will share a place in American his-tory with the likes of Roy Cohn, Jerry Falwell, and Pat Robertson. Because theirs are the tactics of Operation Rescue. They are as yi-Operation Rescue. They are as violent as the Unabomber or the people who blew up the federal building in Oklahoma City. "PETA's assertion that the lives

of lab rats are more valuable than the lives of the men, women, and children living with HIV is so of-fensive that we must confront

That morning USA Today editorialized in support of animal re-search: "Researchers should practice the three Rs: reduce the num-ber of animals used, refine tests to limit any pain, and replace animals whenever possible. Federal animal-welfare laws encourage such steps, which have cut in half the use of animals over two decades. But what scientists can't do is satisfy the extreme demands of such groups as People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to use no animals in critical medical fields.



Guerrilla theatre: Jeff Getty protests the World Congress for Animals June 20.

"The stark choice is between animal testing first or making hu-mans the guinea pigs. The Nazis in World War II did the latter. ... When it comes to protections,

Cathedral

Fall/Winter

Sunday 22 • 5PM - The Clavion Quartet. A candlelight, chamber music concert held in the Chapel of Grace.

Sunday 29 • 5PM - The Men of Grace Cathedral Choir: Timeless Echoes. A concert of Gregorian Chant and Renaissance Music.

October

Friday 1 • 8PM - The Choir of Westminster Abbey. A concert of choral music performed by this world renowned choir. Sunday 3 • 5PM - The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus: A Day of

Sunday 24 • 5PM - The Clavion Quartet. A candlelight, chamber music concert held in the Chapel of Grace.

The Grace Cathedral Christmas Concert Series

Sunday 8 • 5PM - The Christmas Brass and Organ Concert.

Saturday 14 • 4PM - The Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys.

Sunday 15 • 4PM - The Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys.

Wednesday 18 • 5PM - The Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys.

Saturday 21 • 4PM - The Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys.

Saturday 21 • 4PM - The Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys.

December

Saturday 26 • 8PM - The San Francisco Jazz Festival: Sacred Space. A tribute to Don Cherry.

Sunday 27 • 5PM - The Risca Welsh Men's Choir. A repertoire of classical, sacred and popular music

November

Concerts

Grace

people come first.
"The AIDS protesters are letting the stars know their support of animal rights carries a steep price: human life."

Half-truths and falsehoods

Eventually, with "rush hour" passed, Getty and company sat down in the middle of the access

down in the middle of the access road. As planned, police gave them three warnings and then proceeded to arrest Getty and eight other people with AIDS.

Earlier, three animal rights advocates emerged from the USAir Arena to work the media. PETA's principle spokesman on AIDS issues was Exven Simmons, who sues was Steven Simmons, who claims to be a PWA. "As a committed vegan," he said in the man

mitted vegan," he said in the manner of a proselytizing Scientologist, "I attribute much of my good health to the vegetarian diet."

He appeared ignorant of the basic process of scientific research and drug approval, as he spun half-truths and outright falsehoods, according to a Food and Drug Administration spokesper-Drug Administration spokesper-

son.
"I have no faith in the drugs that are available, based on animal tests that have been conducted," Simmons said. "We know that 50 percent of the drugs released every year are later relabeled or recalled because of the negative side effects on people. [Animal testing] simply doesn't give us relevant information. You have a 50-50 chance of information from a rat applying to a human; you might as well flip a coin. It is not good science."

Arthur Whitmore of the FDA called the statement "completely untrue. Whoever said that appears not to know what they are talking about."

Whitmore explained, "No drug in the United States for humans is licensed for marketing based on animal data; it is deter based on animal data; it is deter-mined by their clinical trials in human beings. Animals are in-volved prior to that, to establish whether or not we are going to kill people by injecting them or giving them the pill [in clinical trials].
"So animal research is a neces-

sary component of pharmaceuti-cal research to protect the lives of

human beings."

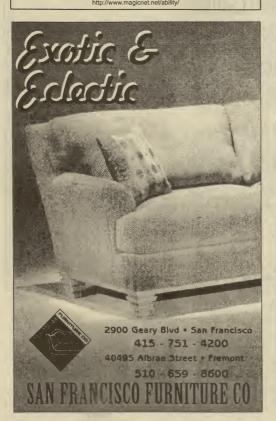
And, he said, "Very few [drugs] are recalled in the United States. Most have to do with potential problems of contamination, not with efficacy questions."

A common practice involves "relabeling" drugs, sometimes upon learning more about inter-actions with other medications and sometimes because of side effects "showing up that you just can't possibly expect to see math-ematically when you are doing a trial on 500 or 1,000 people," he

Also at the demonstration, Getty was struck from behind by a car driven by an animal rights activist's car, but he was not seriously injured and the driver was not arrested.



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Petition seeks to keep Schindler killer in prison for life

by Crystal Yednak. Star Publications. Chicago Heights, IL

he mother of a seaman who was brutally murdered after announcing he was gay is trying to collect 1 million signatures before a man convicted of her son's murder is eligible for parole.

U.S. Navy sailor Terry Helvey is serving a natural life sentence at Fort Leavenouth for the 1993.

Fort Leavenworth for the 1992 murder of Chicago Heights resi-dent Seaman Allen Schindler. Schindler's mother, Dorothy Hajdys Holman, said she made a

promise on her son's grave to make sure Helvey serves that sen-tence behind bars, but keeping that promise is taking its emotional toll on her family.

On July 16, Helvey once again will appear before the parole and clemency board at Fort Leavenworth for a review of his sentence, a military public affairs officer at Fort Leavenworth confirmed on

Friday, July 21.
Holman said this is one more

difficult episode in the battle to keep Helvey from being released.

"Allen's been dead for three years, and we have to relive it every year just to keep him behind bars,"

Holman said late last week. In May 1993, Helvey pleaded an May 1993, Helvey pleaded guilty, before a military judge, to murder with the intent to inflict great bodily harm to Schindler, his 22-year-old shipmate. Schindler was found brutally beaten in a park outside a U.S. naval base in Sasebo, Japan. Holman said her son complained of heine havesed on the

plained of being harassed on the ship. Having just informed the military that he was homosexual, he was being processed for a dis-charge at the time of his death.

In addition to Helvey, another sailor, Charles Vins, was court-martialed and sentenced to one year in prison for charges related to Schindler's death.

Vins was found guilty of fail-ing to report an incident, resisting arrest, and failing to report a serious offense.

News reports of Schindler's murder said the seaman's lungs had exploded and his skull had

caved in as a result of the beating.

Every year, the parole and clemency board hears evidence

from Helvey, from the prison, and from Schindler's family as to whether Helvey's sentence should

History of non-notification

Holman, who just sold the rights of her story to a cable television network, said the military frequently fails to notify her of the

hearings.

Since she wants to be there to

Since she wants to be there to be sure the victim's side is heard during the clemency hearings, she takes it upon herself to check on the status of the case when she is not contacted by the Navy.

Last year, Holman said she was notified of Helvey's clemency hearing the day before it happened. She spent the night rushing to fax an impact statement. This year, she knew it would come ing to fax an impact statement. This year, she knew it would come up in July so she called Thursday to double-check, only to learn it was scheduled for June 25.

"How are we supposed to get the stuff ready?" she said Friday.
"They could have had the hearing and not notified us."

The victim's family advocate in the case asked for the date to be changed, Holman said. The hearing was reset for July 16 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas,

Leavenworth, Kansas.

Holman immediately set to work collecting signatures on petitions stating that Helvey, now 26, should stay behind bars. She plans to send the documents to the commander advocate for the Fort Leavenworth disciplinary barracks.

In the year 2002, after serving ten years of a natural life sentence,

ten years of a natural life sentence, Helvey will be eligible for parole. Holman's goal is to collect 1 mil-lion signatures by that time. Holman said she had trouble accepting that her son was gay, at first. But since his brutal murder, she has championed gay rights, winning an award in 1993 for her

efforts to help the community.

The handling of the case by the Navy and the government sent shock waves throughout the gay community.

Alan Amberg, owner and host of LesBiGay Radio, last week ex-pressed concern that different

pressed concern that different standards of justice are shown in cases involving gay victims. "They should show [Helvey] the same clemency he showed Allen Schindler," Amberg said last week. "A young man was mur-

dered for no other reason than his colleagues think it's okay to kill a queer," he said. "The military does-n't do much to change those ideas."

"If this man was convicted of "It this man was convicted of homicide in the regular courts, this matter wouldn't be discussed for years," Amberg said. Unless there was some gross procedural error, he said, there is no reason to reopen the case annually.

Guaranteed hearings

However, military procedures require the yearly hearing, officials said. Every inmate at Fort Leavenworth disciplinary barracks has a yearly parole and clemency hearing, said Army Captain Wayne Shanks, public affairs operations officer for the combined armed forces center at Fort Leavenworth. At that hearing, the board

At that hearing, the board hears evidence from the inmate's prison record, from the inmate,

and from the victim or the victim's family.

shat the yearly hearings do impact the families. Holman said her ordeal seems never-ending. "You think that once the trial is over, it'll get better," she said. "But the criminal has more rights, and the family has to face it over and over again." The Lifetime cable network is

The Lifetime cable network is looking for a writer to tell Holman's story of dealing with her son's homosexuality, his murder, and how it was handled by the Navy and the government. Holman said a production date has not yet been set.

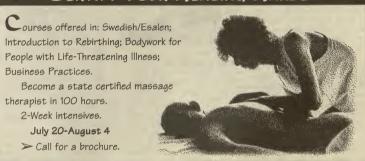
Holman said the movie should

include the message that what happened to her family could happen to any family. She also said every parent should know how important it is to tell their children they are loved. "Twenty-four hours before

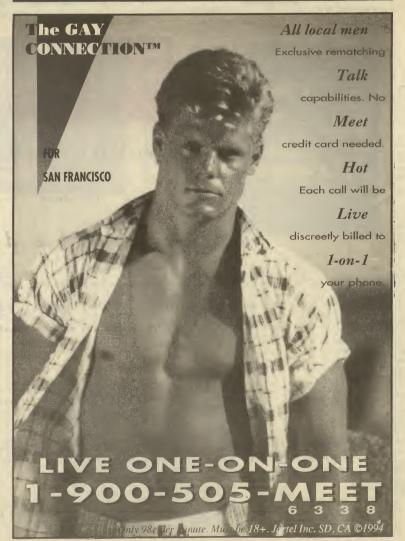
Allen was killed, I talked to him on the phone and I told him four times that I loved him," she said "Even though I had to look in that coffin and see that horribly beaten face, I haven't had any nightmares because I had told him I loved him and things were good be-tween us."

To sign the petition, contact
Dorothy Hajdys-Holman at PO
Box 104, Steger IL 60475.
To express an opinion on
Helvey's case, call Jocelyn
Wolf, Victim Liaison at (913)
684-5223 or contact the Naval
Clemency & Parole Boards;
Dept. of the Army;
US Disciplinary Barracks US Disciplinary Barracks Attn: Boards Branch, DIA 300 McPherson Avenue Ft. Leavenworth, KS 66027-





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SF gay man faces anniversary, parade, widowhood this week

by Dennis Conkin

rew Bertagnolli fights back a brief, but horrible mental image: his lover Tom Meyer being murdered by a shotgun blast to the side of his head.

Meyer and Bertagnolli, who met during last year's Pride Day festivities, were happily planning the rest of their lives together – until Meyer was slain Sunday, June 16 attending a friend's wedding in Boston.

ding in Boston.
Police say Meyer, 39, was killed
moments after witnessing a drugrelated street killing while walking
in South Boston. They initially
theorized that Meyer was out
looking for sex in the area, but
Bertagnolli told the Bay Area Rerestret the some are ween.

Bertagnolli told the Bay Area Reporter the cops are wrong.
"There's a hypothesis that Tom was cruising. Not true at all. Tom and I were committed to each other from the get-go," Bertagnolli said in a June 22 interview. "We talked about it last week when we were in Monterey together: that we didn't think about anyone else and that we wanted to be together for the rest of our lives." er for the rest of our lives

Now, Bertagnolli said, instead of getting support from his Catholic parents, they have met



Drew Bertagnolli now carries photos of his lover, the late Tom Meyer, wherever he goes. Some-times I have to just stop in the street and look at them, he says.

his coming out – and bereave-ment – with abuse and rejection. "They're Shi'ite Catholics. They've said some things that I won't bother to repeat," Bertag-nolli says. "We're kind of at a crossroads there, about what kind

"But I can't deal with that now," he said. "I've got other things to deal with."

A fairy tale

Bertagnolli said the couple met one year ago this Pride weekend.

"The way we met was surreal: after the gay parade, at the Midnight Sun," he remembered. "I wasn't really looking to meet anybody and neither was he. I went in

to grab a beer."

But when the crowded Castro area bar thinned out, Bertagnolli found himself staring at Meyer. "I was totally blown away. I

thought he was the most attractive man I had ever seen in my entire life and that I must talk to him," he said. The attraction v

Meyer worked for a Foster City firm that makes airplane explosive detection devices and was active with the Bay Area Book Council. Bertagnolli was doing his doctoral internship in psychology in New Mexico.

When Bertagnolli returned

home to San Francisco on bi-monthly trips, he said, the two were much like any other Upper Mar-ket-Castro area gay couple in love.

Carrying a torch



lockwise, top to bottom: Mark Knego (project sculptor), Fran Frohlich, Ken Bowers, David Ayotte, and Paul Montejano are only part of the crew volunteering to help design and construct an exact replica of the Statue of Liberty's arm and torch. This 29-foot addition to gay pride festivities will stand at the foot of Market Street this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

"We were a regular homo household," he said. "We'd walk down the street and hold hands, down Vulcan Steps or the Saturn Steps, down to the Castro, pick up some stuff and take it back to cook..." cook..

Bertagnolli told the *B.A.R.* his relationship with Meyer was a true-life fairy-tale, and said, "You can use whatever definition of

fairy that you want." The couple had recently started apartment-hunting together; Meyer had just given notice to leave his job, and was actively working on an Internet soap opera.

And then he was suddenly

killed by a complete stranger three thousand miles from home.

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Why America supports animal testing

by Matthew Sharp, ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool

ine activists from ACT UP/Golden Gate and ACT UP/Washington were ar-rested Thursday, June 20 at the World Animal Congress confer-ence in Washington D.C. Eight Colden Gate members researched Golden Gate members spearhead-ed the action, to respond to the growing conflict between people with AIDS and animal rights ex-tremists such as PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals).

The argument is over whether it is morally correct to use research animals to study AIDS and other life-threatening diseases, to save human lives. The AIDS community released a consensus letter agreeing on the necessity of research in animals at a press conference last week. But PETA wants to stop all use of animals in research,

regardless of the thorough animal welfare laws and regulations. The formidable, well-funded, and trendy group started target-ing people with AIDS after ACT UP/Golden Gate member Jeff Getty's experimental baboon bone marrow experiment was completed last year. PETA repre-sentative Dan Mathews traveled sentative Dan Mathews traveled around the country to defend the group's position, and appeared at an ACT UP/Golden Gate meeting three months ago, where he faced activists who were strongly in favor of animal research.

The activists cited examples throughout years of AIDS research where animal research had

contributed to promising thera-peutic models, as well as critical answers to pathogenesis. Mathews could only respond by saying the baboon experiment "failed." He said the research was "wasted" and seemed unaware of the protocol's important findings and the implications for future research.

We would be in darkness

The importance of using animal models in AIDS research is mai models in AIDS research is critical. According to former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, MD, "We would be in absolute, utter darkness about AIDS if we hadn't done decades of basic research in animal retroviruses." Virtually every treatment on the market today was studied on animals first to determine safety.

Vaccines to protect non-infect-

ed people from contracting HIV can ethically only be tested in an-imals. Using humans in vaccine studies could cause HIV infec-tion, which is out of the question. Currently, the best animal models for studying AIDS vaccines are chimpanzees. The chimpanzee model has taught us a great deal about preventive vaccines. Chimpanzees can become infected with HIV, but do not come down with symptoms; they do not get AIDS.

More critical answers about vaccines can be found by studying Simian Immunodeficiency Virus, which is similar to HIV. SIV is studied in macaque monkeys, which cannot contract HIV.

A recent report from the Office of AIDS Research (OAR) reviews the utility of animal models in AIDS research. According to the imal models - macaque monkeys and the SCID (severe combined immunodeficient) mouse - for use in AIDS pathogenesis, drug efficacy studies, and

gene therapy.

The mother-toinfant AZT transmission study in macaque monkeys is an excellent example of successful ani-mal research. This study showed that the drug AZT can prevent transmission of HIV

during pregnancy, and is now the standard therapy in this population. Think of how many children's lives will be saved because of this study – a study that was delayed because of animal rights activists' violence.

SCID markers

The SCID (severe combined immunodeficient) mouse is an inexpensive animal model for use in AIDS. Theoretically, SCID mice should mimic the human im-mune system because human blood cells are injected into the blood cells are injected into the mouse and not rejected. Then the cells can be challenged with HIV and analyzed. These SCID mice are being used to look at drug development and pathogenesis as it relates to central immune system organs such as the thymus. Major work is going on in this area at UCLA, USC, and at UCSF.

The importance of using these SCID mice for AIDS research cannot be underestimated. We will

not be underestimated. We will

never be able to have a protective vaccine, which will be the most vaccine, which will be the most important preventive measure for the growing worldwide AIDS pandemic, unless we can use animal models.

Seventy-seven percent of Americans support bio-medical research using animals, according to an American Medical Association-sponsored Gallup poll. But no-body expects, or wants, uncontrolled or cruel

conditions for the animals. Animal welfare is protected in research through existing complex laws and regulations.

The Animal Welfare Act en-

acted in 1966 protects animals through a detailed system of reg-

ulations and inspections.
• Each research institution that uses animals must establish an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee that incorporates a veterinarian and someone not in-

There are also government

principles for the utilization and care of animals used in testing. • There are USDA Animal Wel-fare Regulations that must be adhered to by unannounced inspec-tions of research laboratories.

• The Public Health Service Act

creates a mandate for federal law regarding the existing policies of using animals in research.

• Good Laboratory Practice Standards of the FDA require inspections and documentation of studies performed on animals.

Furthermore, there is a plethora of state and local laws to protect animal welfare.
Robert Gallo, co-discoverer of HIV, has stated, "With animals we may have a cure for AIDS in tenverse Without animals was the state of the sta vears. Without animals we will years. Without animals we will never cure AIDS in our lifetime." PETA, on the other hand, said, "Even if animal research resulted in a cure for AIDS, we'd be against it." ACT UP/Golden Gate will continue to support and encour-age animal testing to find thera-

age animal testing to find therapies for AIDS, because we are sure it is the only ethical and responsible course to end the epidemic.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sibling support



cenic Highway Tours owner Richard Twining (left) talks with his brother Charles prior to his induction as president of the Castro Lions Club for the second time. At the June 19 11th anniversary dinner at the Marines Memorial Bldg, for the club, emcee Bob Ross announced that the Lions have raised over \$250,000 for gay and other charities since their inception.

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Two longtime SF gay agencies have one new name

by Dennis Conkin

he San Francisco agency formed by the merger of 18th Street Services, a gay men's substance abuse program, men's substance abuse program, and Operation Concern, a les-bian and gay mental health agency, has selected the new name "New Leaf...services for our community," according to di-rector Joseph Neisen.

The agencies' merger was forced late last year after Califor-nia Pacific Medical Center di-vested itself of its community services division – and Operation

services division - and Operation Concern – in a cost-cutting consolidation.

"The new name has been well "The new name has been well received by the community at large. We've had only positive comments," Neisen told the B.A.R. "People were ready for a new name.

The process of choosing "New af" was facilitated by the efforts of a professional corporate identity consulting group, working with a committee of the agency's staff and board that provided input about the group's mission and values, according to

"The board made the final de-

cision," he said.

With an annual budget of \$1.7 million, and an estimated 200 clients receiving therapy plus additional clients participat-ing in mental health and sub-stance abuse therapy or support groups – New Leaf will eventual-ly have a new logo and signage,

HIVers face new parasite threat

United Press International

eople with weakened immune systems should avoid strawberries and raspberries until it's determined whether they are carriers of Cyclospora, a parasitic illness that has sickened people in Florida, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and

The parasite, which thrives in human waste, can cause abdominal cramps, severe diarrhea, vomiting, muscle aches, low-grade fever and severe fatigue. The infection can be treated with antibiotics. The berries and other fresh produce are possible culprits in the illness, but no de-finitive link has been established. Dr. John Lumpkin, director of

the Illinois Department of Public Health, said the warning is for people with compromised immune systems – such as cancer, HIV, or diabetes – or very young

children.
"This is just an extreme pre-

"This is just an extreme pre-caution that we would not recom-mend for the general public," he told the Chicago Sun-Times. Healthy people should not worry about eating strawberries, other berries or any fresh pro-duce, although they should always wash any fruits or yearestables thorwash any fruits or vegetables thoroughly, he said. ▼

Neisen said. And while some critics charge the agency's name sounds like a parody that underscores the worst sentimentality of the contemporary recovery and self-help movements, others hope the agency continues to live up to its mission, no matter what it is

named.
"More important than the name New Leaf is that the agency continue to help people have a new lease on life," said former 18th Street Services executive director and AIDS public policy expert Jerry De Jong. "Both agencies were pioneering, and I'm pleased to see their services will continue." continue.

continue."

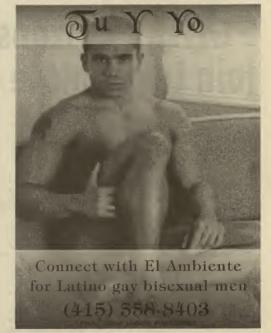
Currently a student at The Starr King School of The Ministry, a Unitarian-Universalist Seminary at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, De Jong said he opposed the name change. "It sounds well, but our com-

munity has lost so many people and such historical continuity over the last 15 years of the epi-demic that I would have liked to see Operation Concern/18th Street Services continue as the name," he said.

The merger of the two groups was troubled from its beginning, and was once abruptly called off because of an impasse in negoti-

Longtime Operations Con-cern director Kevin McGirr was fired by CMPC shortly before the merger was completed – and the executive director of 18th Street Services later abruptly departed
- amidst widespread rumors of a
drug-related relapse.
According to Neisen, the
agency plans to expand its ser-

vices to women substance abusers and work with lesbian and gay family units, in addition to its current array of substance abuse, mental health, and HIV prevention services.





Restoring the Immune System in HIV Disease

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Panelists will discuss recent developments in immune-based treatments for HIV/AIDS. Discussion will include recent and ongoing studies of lymphocyte transfer between siblings, xenogeneic stem cell transfer, gene therapies, vaccines and cytokines. Future directions will also be discussed. Moderator Michael McCune, MD, PhD

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Gladstone Institute
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Associate Professor of Medicine
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Associate Director GCRC San Francisco General Hospital

Gifford Leoung, MD

Medical Director HIVCare Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine UCSF

Principal Investigator
Allogeneic Lymphocyte Transfer Study

Steven Deeks,MD Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine UCSF/SFGH AIDS Program

Principal Investigator Bone Marrow Transplant Study

Brenda Lein

Director
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Jeffrey Laurence, MD Associate Professor of Medicine/Director AIDS Research Laboratory, Cornell University School of Medicine Senior Scientific Consultant for Programs AmFAR

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PG&E, Horizons Foundation join to promote gay youth programs

by Cynthia Laird

hen two rainbow flags hanging over a portion of a downtown Muni bus shelter were taken down early Monday, June 24, posters were unveiled that read, "We're helping lesbian and gay youth reach new Horizons."

That morning marked the beginning of a campaign to promote gay youth education and programs sponsored by Pacific Gas & Electric and the Horizons Foundation.

Under the new PG&E Lesbian and Gay Youth and Education Fund campaign, the utility will match all donations made to Horizons Foundation through September 15, up to \$20,000. The campaign will create a potential pool of \$40,000 to provide resources to programs such as LYRIC.

The bus shelter advertisements are just one of the ways PG&E will draw attention to the campaign. Public service announcements and other media advertising are also planned to make people aware of the fundraising effort.

Representatives of the foundation and PG&E were at the curbside news conference, which was timed to coincide with the start of gay pride week in San Francisco, joined by members of the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC) and the utility company's Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Employees Association (LGBEA).

Service utility

"We're really excited about this," said Frank Romeo, president of PG&E's LGBEA. "By starting this youth campaign, gay youths can utilize services." Tom Evans, San Francisco dis-

Tom Evans, San Francisco district manager for PG&E, also talked about the importance of the campaign.

tanked about the Importance of the campaign.

"PG&E is physically connected with the community," he said.
"Our responsibility is to make it as effective as possible so we can all enjoy this great community."

Evans added that LGBEA plays in the playing the

Evans added that LGBEA plays an important role in helping the utility extend its commitment to the regional gay and lesbian community

Dominick Albano, vice president of development for Horizons Foundation, said the utility's contribution represents the largest corporate gift the foundation has received in its 16 year history.

"If we were doing this five years ago, we'd probably be doing it in the Castro," Albano said. "We're downtown and have a

major corporation.

"This is about the future."

Carrie Rodd, an openly lesbian student who just graduated from



Poster girls: Nicole Fuson (left) and Carrie Rodd pose in front of the downtown bus shelter advertisement.

George Washington High School, said she also felt the event was important. Rodd, who received a college scholarship from PG&E, plans to attend West Virginia University this fall.

She and her girlfriend, Nicole Fuson, seemed happy as they stood for a moment in front of the bus shelter poster.

the bus shelter poster.

"I think it's a great thing PG&E is doing," Rodd said.

'Our society's future'

Denise Wells, president of the Horizons board, said the foundation's support for organizations like LYRIC and Community United Against Violence (CUAV) helps "very important institutions" to

the gay community.

"The challenge for all of us in the Bay Area is to build a community in which we can participate free of discrimination and harassment," Wells said, "By establishing and promoting this fund, PG&E demonstrates a valuable leadership that can motivate us all to contribute to the community."

Albano and others from Horizons noted that the often turbulent years of adolescence are usually even more so for gay youth. Frequently, gay youth experience extreme isolation and deep conflicts with family, community, and peers. These factors work to put gay

youth at a high risk for suicide and other self-destructive behavior.

The youth and education fund

The youth and education fund started by PG&E will provide a positive environment for gay teens including leadership training, social activities, and health education, Albano stated.

"We are pleased to partner with Horizons Foundation." Romeo said. "Horizons and PG&E recognize the need to support young people, who truly represent our society's future. In particular, gay and lesbian youth have traditionally been overlooked, and this fund will help change that."

Horizons Foundation is the primary philanthropic organization for the Bay Area's lesbian and gay community. Horizons provided the starting grants to create organizations such as the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Open Hand, and CUAV. Since 1981, the foundation has granted more than \$600,000 to over 250 organizations and projects.

organizations and projects.
PG&E is the nation's largest investor-owned utility. The company's LGBEA advises and works with the corporation on philanthropic and policy issues affecting the lesbian and gay community.

For more information on the PG&E Lesbian and Gay Youth & Education Fund, call (415) 398-2333 or write Horizons Foundation, 870 Market Street, Suite 718, San Francisco CA

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Visiting volunteers feted

by Dennis Conkin

n estimated 300 Bay Area volunteers were honored at a Sunday, June 23 reception for their efforts on behalf of Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco.

Supervisor Susan Leal presented a proclamation at the reception declaring Sunday "Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco Volunteer Appreciation Day" on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco.

The reception, featuring a festive Caribbean theme, was held at Miss Pearl's Jam House, a popular Civic Center area gathering spot

Civic Center area gathering spot.

"Last year, these men and women donated almost 27,000 hours of their time and provided a wide range of help and support to VNH patients and their families," Pat Bregant, volunteer coordinator for the 17-year-old agency told the Bay Area Reporter.

agency, told the Bay Area Reporter.
According to Bregant, VNH
volunteers – gay and straight –
have not only enriched the lives
of thousands of residents in the
Bay Area with end-stage AIDS
and other life-threatening illness,
but have also managed to save
VNH 'clients an estimated

VNH 'clients an estimated \$300,000 a year.
"They are a very special group of volunteers," Bregant said. "I think the youngest is 15 and the oldest is 86 years old. We have people living with HIV who volunteer, as well as the more traditional woman who doesn't work and has free time.

and has free time.
"We also have people who

work downtown more than 70 hours a week, but still volunteer."

VNH volunteers provide a variety of services for clients, ranging from spiritual support, trained massage therapy, direct patient care, running errands, or even helping patients with transportation.

Volunteers also provide institutional support, including office or kitchen and reception work for the Castro's Coming Home Hospice, VNH's 24-hour care facility.

Bregant told the Bay Area Reporter that as healthcare becomes increasingly managed care, and the work of nurses and other clinical staff becomes increasingly task-focused, the work of VNH volunteers is essential.

"Especially if their caregivers work full-time. Or perhaps someone doesn't have much support. As nurses become task-oriented and need to see more people, volunteers still have the time to hold a patient's hand or help cook food or go for that walk around the block," Bregant said.

Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice volunteers receive 22 hours of intensive training before they have any direct patient contact, Bregant told the Bay Area Reporter.

"It's an overview about working with people with HIV and other life-threatening illnesses and working with people at the end of their lives," Bregant said. ▼

For more information, contact VNH at (415) 750-6800.



presented by BETA, the quarterly AIDS treatment magazine published by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Report from the XI International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver July 7-12, 1996

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Ten years - so far of no 'fundamental right' to sodomy

by David Bianco

his Sunday, June 30, 1996 is not just Freedom Day in San Francisco. It is also the tenth anniversary of the devastating decision by the United States Supreme Court in the case of Bowers v. Hardwick, in which the court held that sodomy laws were constitutional.

Before the Hardwick case, civil

rights attorneys had spent nearly a decade looking for an ideal case with which to challenge the con-stitutionality of laws forbidding sodomy. In the last several decades, such laws have rarely been enforced, and arrests have almost never been made without complicating factors such as coercion or sex with a minor. So when Michael Hardwick was arrested for sodomy in Georgia in 1982, gay and lesbian activists latched onto the case, even though the charges were soon dropped. Harry Blackmun's dissent strongly disagreed, arguing that "depriving individuals of the right to choose for themselves how to conduct their intimate relationships poses a far greater threat to the values most deeply rooted in our Nation's history than tolerance of noncon-formity could ever do."

A coming out lesson

But these two opinions don't tell the whole story of the ruling in Bowers v. Hardwick. When the case first came before the members of the court in April, 1986, there were four justices who considered sodomy laws unconstitutional and four who thought them totally legitimate. In the middle was Lewis Powell, Jr., a moderate jurist who in several previous cases had sought compromises between extreme positions.

Powell initially indicated sup-

port for overturning the sodomy laws, but was ultimately con-vinced by Chief Justice Warren

Hardwick's case seemed tailor-made to show how sodomy laws violate privacy: a police officer intent on serving a warrant entered Hardwick's bedroom and arrested him after observing him engaged in mutual oral sex with another man.

Hardwick's case seemed tailor-made to show how sodomy laws violate a person's privacy: a police officer intent on serving a warrant entered Hardwick's bedroom and arrested him after observing him engaged in mutual oral sex with

Influenced by the right to privacy established by previous cases including *Roe v. Wade*, one court of appeals held that sexual activity in private between consenting adults was protected by the Constitution from government inter-ference. The Attorney General of Georgia, right-wing Republican Michael Bowers, appealed the case to the Supreme Court in order to defend his state's sodomy law.

Georgia's sodomy ban applies to same-sex and opposite-sex couples, including married het-erosexuals, and Hardwick's attorneys found a married Georgia couple, "John and Mary Doe," who claimed that the sodomy law invaded their privacy as well. But the Supreme Court quickly rejected their claim, and ruled on the narrower question of, in the words of the majority opinion, "whether the Federal Constitu-tion confers a fundamental right upon homosexuals to engage in sodomy and hence invalidates the laws of the many States that still

laws of the many States that still make such conduct illegal and have done so for a very long time."

Justice Byron White (succeeded in 1993 by Ruth Bader Ginsberg) penned the 5-4 majority opinion, which used sweeping, derisive language to mock the idea that gay Americans have a right to sexual privacy in their homes. Judge

Burger to switch his vote. In the meantime, Powell received heavy pressure from both sides among

pressure from both sides among his law clerks, including a conser-vative Mormon and a liberal, somewhat closeted gay man. Powell's gay clerk on several occasions considered coming out to his boss, but instead settled for an impassioned argument in favor of sexual freedom. In light of Powell's remark after the decision that he didn't know any gay or lesbian people, some activists have suggested that the clerk's coming out could have made the difference in Powell's vote. Indeed, in 1990, Powell indicated that, upon further reflection, he regretted his vote in the case.

The ruling in Bowers v. Hard-vick was handed down on June 30, 1986, just one day after gay and lesbian pride celebrations took place in major cities across America. The reaction among the orga-nized gay and lesbian community nized gay and resolan community was one of outrage, and was one of the major factors, along with the government's sluggish response to the AIDS crisis, in the decision to call for a March on Washington in October 1987. ▼

David Bianco, M.A. teaches gay and lesbian history and politics at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. If there's anything about the history of gays and/or lesbians you've always wondered about, contact him care of this newspaper or through his e-mail address: AriBianco@aol.com

Publicity stunt or civil rights issue?

Hetero male-male couple asks SF mayor for legal recognition

by Dennis Conkin

Danish heterosexual man who married his straight male American friend last month in a religious, but legally unrecognized ceremony, will ask Mayor Willie Brown to intervene

in their plight.

Anders Hartington, 20, will ask
Brown to see if he can use any of
his considerable diplomatic skills
to help legitimize his same-sex –

but non-sexual – union with Andy Kjar, 22. "We are going to ask Willie Brown to contact the Mayor of Copenhagen," Hartington said. "Maybe we can do it at the Danish Embassy."

Hartington wants the mayor to recognize the couple's status as legally married – and for San Francisco to grant reciprocity to Danish same-sex unions, which are legal marriages in that coun-

try.

Hartington said that the pair

Community also wants European Community recognition of such Danish-sanc-

tioned relationships.

"These people must acknowledge same-sex marriages as the equivalent of man-woman relationships," Hartington said.

Hartington spoke of tax and other benefits of heterosexual marriage, including ease of immigration – and pointed out that he is residing in the United States on an expired visa. "I haven't been contacted by

an expired visa.

"I haven't been contacted by
the Immigration and Naturalization Service yet," he said.

Some lesbian and gay activists
have criticized the men's actions

have criticized the fields actions as a publicity stunt that is not helpful to the lesbian and gay marriage cause, but Hartington disagreed, and said the point is a fundamental human rights issue.

"You don't have to be lesbian or gay to have a same-sex rela-tionship," he said. "We wanted to take the issue out of the bedroom and put it into the human rights

arena.
"I have a commitment to

I have a commitment to Andy. We live together. We are really good friends."

Hartington is not currently involved in a heterosexual relationship. Kjar is.

Hartington is a freelance journalist who has been in the country since the end of January. He met Kjar while volunteering for the San Francisco chapter of Greenpeace, an environmental activist

Reactions have mostly been supportive he said, because peo-ple understand the inequity – and the elements of street theater – in

the elements of street theater – in the union.

"My mom and dad are divorced. My dad thinks it's okay and so do my grandparents," Hartington said. "They know I did it for a political reason.

"My mother was just here a

"My mother was just here a week ago. She didn't know what to think."

to think."

Kjar's parents sent flowers.

The pair's union was performed in front of the Civic Center area US Army recruiting office.

"We had a cake with two men in Army uniforms on top," he said. "We tried to register for the service for the hell of it."

Mayor Brown's office had no

Mayor Brown's office had no immediate comment on the couple's request for assistance. ▼



Anders Hartington (left) with Andy Kjar: "I have a commitment to Andy. We live together. We are really good friends."

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Viral load results provided

For more info. call Masa Fisher at (415) 476-9296 x303

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- CD4 count >200.
- Requires bone marrow biopsy, aspirate and blood draw

(\$100 + expenses)

For more info. call Michael Ceniceros at (415) 695-3749

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Study Requirements:

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OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste,

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All oblituaries must include a contact name and others number. phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Griffin V. Alanson Sept. 5, 1951 - June 6, 1996



After a coura-geous battle, Griffin is at peace. He joins his Joe who preced-ed him six years earlier. Daddy has gone on to chase all the redheads in a higher place. Those of us

Ingner place.

Who wo of his generosity, kindness and willingness to help a poor soul in need. He was always there to lend a helping hand, and went out of his way for his friends and extended family. He was a well-known landlord who always listened to his tenant and did anything he could to help out. He will be greatly missed. Take care, Daddy!

A memorial service will be held at a later date. For information, please contact lan at (408) 241-3552.

Wayne Edward Alves Nov. 13, 1934 - June 12, 1996

Joseph Kenney

Wayne unexpectedly passed away from pneumonia on June 12. His three children, Gregory, Judianne and Jeffrey, as well as his former wife, Jean, were

It has been ten years

since you left a space by my side... My lover, my friend, my mentor, my partner,



with him at the with him at the
end. Wayne is also
survived by his
mother, Maryjane;
sister, Barbara; and
grandchildren, Alex
and Emily.
A resident of
San Francisco and
Marin County

Marin County from 1970 to 1994, Wayne also lived in Sacramento before and after residing in the Bay Area. He was a teacher in Sacra-mento and Marin County from 1964 to

mento and Marin County from 1964 to 1981, and managed real estate in San Francisco from 1983 to 1994.

Wayne attended many meetings at First Place and was happy to celebrate 20 years of sobriety in April. His interests were wide but centered on music, theatre, gardening and sparking controversial debates. Wayne loved drama and appeared in several theatrical productions during the mid-'80s in Marin County, and enjoyed playing the piano for family and friends. "Moon River" is forever etched in our memories.

A memorial service will be held in Sacramento on June 29 at 2 p.m. For information call 916/451-6615.



NAMES Project

know."
We miss our
"Warehouse
Mangy."

George Campoli Dec. 25, 1941 - June 14, 1996

I still miss you I still love you I have not forgotten In peace and Light John Donohie



Our friend, George, passed qui-etly from this life, leaving many won-derful memories for those of us for-tunate enough to have known him. His talents and generosity will be

greatly missed by all.

For many years, George worked at Ketchum Communications, where he held the position of vice president and financial manager. He was probably most well-known in the Bay Area as the lead singer for Wanted, his country-western band. Anyone hearing him sing knew that his love of music came from the heart. Through his music George helped in the fundraising efforts of several local AIDS organizations.

Survivors include his loving mother, Helen; a brother, Robert; dear friend, Dan Miller; and a countless number of other friends. Per his wishes, no memorial service is planned. Friends are requested to make donations in his memory to the AIDS charity of their choice.

Good-bye, dear friend, We'll meet you on the other side.

Robert Dominguez Feb. 2, 1963 – June 19, 1996



Dear Robert:
Thanks for the
ride. It was an absolutely fantastic
ten years. I kept my
promise, and you
died at home listein years. The sun was shining.
We were so fortumanify to help us through these last six
months. You really fought the fight, and
now it is time to start the healing. I've
been asking everyone to commit a random act of kindness or a senseless act of
beauty in your memory. As Marge always said, Robert, you were the anchor
to my balloon. Bye-bye, baby. I miss
you. - Your Henry
Service and reception at Trinity
Episcopal Church, Gough and Bush, at
4 p.m. Saturday, June 29.
(The Pacific Heights Matrons Club
Twirlers, founded by Robert
Dominguez and Henry Goodwin and
two time Gay Day Cable Car Award
winners, won't be marching in the parade this year.)

Leslie H. Gundel



On June 7, 1996

On June 7, Leslie H. Gundel passed away at his home in the presence of his family and close friends. He died of lymphoma.

Until his disability retirement, Les was an administrative assistant in the Grants Management Department of Human Development and Aging at the University of California/San Francisco. He was an avid bowler, dancer and Cal football fan.

Les life was celebrated by his family, friends and colleagues at a memorial gathering held at the university. A living tree memorial will be planted in his honor at Golden Gate Park in the near future.

Larry Keith Henson Jan. 24, 1948 - June 17, 1996



Larry "Boomer" fell asleep peaceful-ly at 8:20 p.m., Monday, June 17, at his home in San Francisco. At his bedside were his loving mother. loving mother, Hazel; domestic

raze; domestic partner, Tom "Buddy"; good friends, Glenn, Paul, Gwen, Louis and Priscilla; spiritual comforters, Margaret and Mae; and his minister, Lucy.

Born and raised in Missouri, Larry joined the military after high school and served both in Vietnam and Korea. After admirably servine his country, he lived admirably serving his country, he lived in Covina, Calif., with his mom before moving to San Francisco in 1986. Larry worked at Corporate Travel until he re-tired in 1993.

tired in 1993.

Larry was preceded in death by his father, Aaron; partner, Robert; and good friends, Edmund, Nikolai and Miezie. He is survived by brothers, Ron, Dale and Carlos; sisters-in-law, Eileen and Arlene; and many nieces, nephews and their children.

Special thanks to Larry's brother, Ron; sister-in-law, Eileen; Bonnie; John; Harry; Les, Louis; Ellye; and Richard for all their lowe and support.

narry; test touts; tell; and tachtard to all their love and support. A celebration of life will take place at Larry's home (428 Douglass St., SF) on Saturday, June 29, at High Noon. Larry, may you rest peacefully with your "spirit in the sky." Sagapo.



Daniel was active with the Marin AIDS Project Speakers Bureau, the Marin AIDS Project and a strong advocate of the Marin AIDS Interfaith Network. His deepest desire was to prevent the spread of AIDS and education was an avenue to that end. He believed it-t leught if!

Please know that your presence was a blessing to me, our togetherness was my sacred gift. Each day I feel a part of you alive in me through a silent gentle wisdom that allows me to carry on. Each day I cherish

you and I thank the universe for what we had...

DANIEL WAS FIGHTING FOR ALL TO PARTICIPATE IN AGGRESSIVE MED DANIEL WAS FIGHTING FOR ALL TO PARTICIPATE IN AGGRESSIVE MEDICAL CARE THROUGH PRESENTATIONS BY DR. DAVID SENECHEK, ADVOCATING COMBINATION THERAPY. NOW DOCTOR SENECHEK IS URGING PEOPLE WITH HIV INFECTION TO SEEK PARIY COMBINATION THERAPY AND BE AWARE OF THE AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR PROTEASE INHIBITORS THAT INSURANCE MAY NOT COVER ASPERCILLUS TOOK DAN'S LIFE, EVEN AS HE LOOKED TO COMBINATION THERAPY.

Dan appeared on CNN's "AIDS and Nutrition", he lectured at the College of Marin, San Jose State University and spoke at "Trading Facts for Fears" with Miss America. Dan taught Seventh and Eight Graders, and inspired compassionate insight, awe, and understanding.

I SINCERELY THANK DAN'S SPIRITUAL GUIDES, THE REV. DR. JANIE SPAHR, "SO ALL SHALL FREELY SERVE". REV. JUDITH STONE, UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SAN RAFAEL, REV. DAVE MARTIN AND JO SANDERS, MARIN AIDS INTERPAITH NETWORK, PETER REGNART, DAN'S MAITE AND DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO DR. DAVID SENECHEK FOR THE MOST PRODUCTIVE AND PROFOUND YEARS MY SON EVER HAD THE JOY TO LIVE --A GREAT FIVE YEARS BEYOND EXPECTATIONS!

Dan died on February 14, 1995, the day of love! His passion was AIDS education and I will continue to champion his cause...
Dan Riffin - our truth teller!

For more information, please contact

ssy Riffin (115)57+3768+Dr. David Senechek (415)788-4535

OBITUARIES

Blake Kelley Oct. 23, 1951 – June 7, 1996



Oct. 23, 1951 – June 7, 1996

Our friend
Blake Kelley died on June 7 at Coming Home Hospice due to AIDS complications. He suffered for years from this disease, but always maintained his compassion, dignity to family and friends.
Blake was born and raised in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was an Army veteran and served in the Vietnam War. He then moved to San Francisco, his beloved home for 26 years. Over the years, Blake was a successful salesperson and corporate personnel trainer. He was an accomplished horseman, and had a special love and understanding for all animals.
Blake is survived by his mother, Joan Pitcher, her husband, Arnie; favorite aunt, Donna; and numerous other relatives from Michigan. His San Francisco family of choice, including Larry, Bobby, Freddie and Gary, were with him when he died. They wish to thank the superb staff of Coming Home Hospice for the loving care and peaceful surroundings they provided Blake in his last months.

A celebration of Blake's life will be

last months.

A celebration of Blake's life will be held on July 7 at 1 p.m. at Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco. A potluck picnic will follow at McLaren Park, Vermont and 20th streets, San Francisco. For information, call (415) 553-4509.

Keith Kroeber March 6, 1952 - April 3, 1996



Keith passed from this life at his from this life at his Noe Street home shortly after sunrise on April 3. At his bedside were his mother, Betty Kroe-ber; husband, Rod Guyer; and loving friend, Debrin Cox

rfriend, Debrin Cox.
Keith was
valiant in his struggle against AIDS,
keeping well-informed on current treatments, nutrition and all facets of HIV
disease. He appeared in the BBC television documentary A Ray of Hope. He
especially enjoyed volunteer work at
Quan Yin Acupuncture Clinic, bringing
comfort to people with his warm smile
and keen sense of humor.

A professional carpenter, Keith
moved from Venice, Calif, to design
and build a house for his mother in
Mendocino County. He received his
M.A. in clinical psychology from Antioch West, and worked as a counselor at
M.O.V.E. (Men Overcoming Violence).

Keith loved roaming the hills and ravines of Mendocino County and his beloved family property, Kishamish. Sighting hawks, identifying native oak trees and planting gardens were infinite ly more important to him than fad and fashion.

tashion.
Keith was a loving and dedicated godfather to Mayahuel Rachael de los Milagros Montoya. Keith is survived by Rod Guyer; parents, Betty and Clifton Kroeber; brothers, Jeff, Alan and Scott; and a very large extended family.

Randy J. Lane

Randy J. Lane, 38, of Phoenix, for-merly from San Francisco, died May 12. He was born in Knoxville, Tenn. Survivors include Randy's parents, Joyce and James; sister, Cathy; brother, David; and grandparents. His ashes will be scattered into the Bay via the Red and White sunset cruise on Saturday, June 29. All friends are welcomed to at-tend. For more information, please call 602/917-0009.

James R. St. Martin Jan. 10, 1948 - June 16, 1996



Jim passed away peacefully on Sun-day, June 16, at Davies Hospital after a short battle with pulmona, KS. His partner wmond) Adam

Jim was raised in Iowa, attended Iowa U. and The Sor-bonne. He lived in Paris for 14 years, where he owned a technical translation

service.

Jim relocated to San Francisco in 1982, and soon fell in love with his partner and his personal computer. The competition was ferce and unresolved until the end. He was self-employed as a computer programmer for many years. Jim is survived by his father, Bob; brother, Don; and his partner of 13 years, Adam; as well as many dear friends.

Jim was an Artive member of St.

m was an active member of St Jim was an active member of St., Peter's Episcopal Church on 29th Ave, where he sang in the choir and served as guest organist. Special thanks to Davies Hospital staff, Virginia Cafaro and Susanna Keily for their care and support – simply the

ı. A memorial will be held on Satur-A memorial will be held on Satur-day, June 29, at 5:30 p.m. at First United Lutheran Church on Geary at 30th Ave. Memorial contributions can be sent to Davies HIV Volunteers, 45 Castro St., SF, CA 94114.

Sweet peace, Dimmy – Love, Adam

Scott L. Stansbury, D.D.S. June 17, 1996



Scott, 43, ended Scott, 43, ended his last journey at home on Monday afternoon, June 17. His HIV diagnosis was in October 1987. He is sur-vived by his longtime companior and wife, Gloria

Swanson Stans-bury; his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Stansbury of Long Beach; and his sister, Sydney of Los Angeles. Scott practiced dentistry at 450 Sut-ter for nearly ten years, He graduated cum laude in economics from the Uni-versity of Santa Clara and later with honors from the University of Pacific School of Dentistry in San Francisco in 1980

1980.
Scott was activity in the community.
He was on the special events committee of the Golden Gate Business Association. He volunteered with many AIDS-related organizations, with special dedication to the SF AIDS Foundation hotline and fundraising events.
Travel was one of his passions. However, he was always happy to come home to San Francisco to the beautiful home that he and Gloria frequently shared with many friends.

home that he and Gloria Irequently shared with many friends. Special thanks to his physician, Dr. Richard Cazen; the caring staff of Ad-vanced Infusion System; Addus Health Care; and friends too numerous to

Contributions can be made to the SF AIDS Foundation or the Rose Resnick Lighthouse. Date of service to be announced.





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Norman H. Taber July 5, 1954-June 8, 1996

Norman (Norm) died peacefully in his sleep after many months of suffering from various opportunistic diseases associated with AIDS, the last of which was lymphoma of the brain.

Norm was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and his family moved to Connecticut where he attended prep school at Hotchkiss in Lakeville, Connecticut. He moved to Connecticut where the attended prep school at Hotchkiss in Lakeville, Connecticut. He moved to San Francisco in September 1969 and was a graduate of U.C. Berkeley where he studied Far Eastern languages and religions. Because of his insatiable search for knowledge and his love for the country, Norm moved to South India for two years to study the language, religion, and culture, and to be with his soulmate, Ajay. They both moved back to San Francisco in the mid-80's and lived together until Ajay's death from AIDS in January 1991. Norm never got over losing Ajay and expressed ued sorrow to friends just days before his own death. It is a comfort to know they are together again in spirit.

Norm was also a proud member of the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous and was a firm Norm was also a proton memoer of the relicowanth of Andonymous and was a firm believer in the Steps, especially Step Twelve; thus, his actions spoke for him through the service he provided by volunteering for H&I commitments at the County Iail and reaching out to newcomers, although the latter was difficult for him because of his intense shyness. He also had a great sense of humor and could laugh at and acknowledge his character defects. How his friends vill miss that wicked sense of hun

m is survived by his mother Barbara Taber, sister Marcia Heffelfinger, brother-in-law Chris Heffelfinger and their son Jamie. A memorial service will be held at 4:00P.M. on Saturday, June 29 at Church of the Advent of Christ the King, 261 Fell Street, San Francisco. Memorial donations may be made to Project Open Hand, AIDS Memorial Grove, San Francisco SPCA, or Shanti Project, Inc. For further info, you may call Michael Hughes at (415) 386-7336.





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Lefty queer defeatism

by Michael C. Botkin

flier titled "Love, and mar-riage." It comes from a group that calls itself Lesbian and GAy Insurrection. (LGAT) group that calls itself Lesbian and GAy Insurrection (LGAI) and urges against fighting the Defense of Marriage Act (DoMA). It uses some twisted logic to defend this position, which amounts to a form of lefty, politically correct queer defeatism. But I believe that it's really just a front group established for the sole purpose of recruiting "activists and militants" to the shadowy leftist cult, the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee.

the shadowy leftist cult, the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee.

I base this partly on the acronym they've chosen. LGAI used to stand for "Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention," which was definitely a PFOC front group. I assume they accepted this tortuous acronym (c'mon; Lesbian and Gay? Why not just call the group LAGI?) in order to recycle buttons, T-shirts and perhaps banners.

Aside from the telltale acronym, the twisted and puerile politics revealed in the flier are a dead giveaway.

politics revealed in the flier are a dead giveaway.

The game being played here is called "recruitment." By taking a high-profile stand on the extreme left of a media-hot issue, they hope to draw a few radical activists and militants. In the process of working on the headline issue—which in fact PFOC doesn't care that much about—they hope to recruit some new cadets.

This is how they destroyed ACT UP a few years ago. The PFOC created and then fanned

huge procedural debates, because these polarized the members. It was fatal for the group, but PFOC didn't care. From their perspective gaining a recruit to the revolu-tionary party was the real goal, not the bourgeois reforms sought by all those PWAs who just want-ed to save their lives.

ed to save their lives.

But enough background. Let's look at the text

Strange bedfellows

It begins by trumpeting, "Remember us? We are lesbians and gay men, the people who chose love and sex, over social acceptance, over physical security, over the almighty buck."

This attempts to es-tablish them as selfless idealists in contrast to the rest of us sell-outs. Its falsehood lies in that none of us chose to be queer at all; it was a condition we found our-selves in rather **Queer Watch**

than the highfa-lutin' moral decision they imply.

Later it uses the catchy line: "We always thought that one of the good things about being a lesbian, or gay man, is that you don't have to get married. Many of us have to get married. Many of us have parents who were married, and really, it's nothing to write home about." Well, pretty obviously nobody has to get married, so the whole notion is pretty cracked. Most queers, if asked if they should have the right to be married – whether they would choose to avail themselves of this right ro not – would answer yes. right or not – would answer yes, we should have that right.

Also, many of us have parents who were married who were perfectly happy together. I'm sorry that apparently everyone in PFOC came from an abusive home — maybe that's why they've all chosen to participate in such an abu-sive organization.

A couple of paragraphs later they comment, "It is interesting that while assimilationists clamor for gay marriage, the right wing is trying to hold straight marriages together by eliminating no-fault divorce. Strange bedfellows?" As though there were some kind of al-

though there were some kind of al-liance between the pro-marriage gays and the Right. But it is LGAI that's calling for resistance to the DoMA, exactly like the Right. Who are the strange bedfellows here? The flier concludes: "There is a basic conflict here between those who see the gay movement as a way to gain acceptance in straight society. ... We do not want the crumbs from society's table, and we are not fighting for a place at it. we are not fighting for a place at it.
We want to overturn the fucking

We want to overturn the fucking table." They close with the slogan: Assimilation is NOT Liberation.

So, if all gay rights are mere crumbs from the table, to be despised as such, what is liberation? The opposite of assimilation is separation, but there's no hint that that's the solution (in fact, separation is another at DEFOC. that that's the solution (in fact, separatism is anathema to PFOC, because it would lock out their heterosexual leadership). No, the answer they're groping for, although they're rightfully afraid to put it in print for fear of driving away potential recruits, is socialist revolution.

Their faith in the coming revolution is touching. Most of us fear such an upheaval, not in the least because most such revolutions have ended up putting gays in gu-lags or the Cuban concentration camps for PWAs. But this is a bit of rhetoric they'll save until

they've got a militant or two firmly on the hook.

L a recruit

I, a recruit

You may wonder how I know so much about the intricacies and arcane politics of this cult. The shameful answer, I'm afraid, is that in my youth I was in a cult pretty much indistinguishable from PFOC. I can explain myself only by claiming to have been young, naive, idealistic, impulsive and totally in love with Joe, my mentor and lover for those three agonizing years.

agonizing years.

I was "horizontally recruited"
as they say, recruited as much

on the basis of personal attraction as politics. It was looked down on by some, but these cults get so few recruits that they have to take them how-

have to take them however they can get them.
When Joe told me a few weeks after I was in the bag and had joined up, that he'd planned a demonstration solely for the result of recruiting me, rather than because he expected the demonstration to have any public effect, I was flattered. It was only later I began to be appalled at the cynicism this maneuver implied.

Joe was a dynamite organizer and was in fact the only member of the branch to actually produce real live recruits, me and my

real live recruits, me and my buddy Ian. Alas, ironically this proved Joe's undoing, for the honchos began to fear he was building a "gay faction" and purged him brutally from the or-

building a gay faction and purged him brutally from the organization. Of course, they purged me, too, with a maximum of psychological violence, which accounts for some of my bitterness to this day. (You can read the gory details in "A Tale of Two Purges" in *Processed World* #32.)

Exiled from revolutionary politics, loe turned to ordinary "bourgeois" politics and was even more effective, swiftly becoming a mover and shaker in Chicago's small gay community. He masterminded Ron Sable's nearly successful run for alderman and would probably have won with a more promising candidate. He became the legislative assistant to Ellis Levine, a liberal state legislator from Chicago. eral state legislator from Chicago. In this position, he managed to spike the Right's guns on HIV test-ing by getting a provision passed into law making HIV test results confidential in the state. He did this before the hysteria about AIDS was really worked up. Of course, eventually the hysteria was whipped up, and after a couple of years, the reactionaries overturned that law.

But it was no small accomplish-ment for Joe to single-handedly hold back the tide of AIDSphobia for a couple of years in the state of Illinois. He accomplished so much in his five years in "bourgeois" pol-itics that I can't help but wonder what he might have accomplished if he hadn't squandered ten years

if he hadn't squandered ten years on "revolutionary" politics. It is this concern that prompts me to debunk this PFOC flier.

If there are any militants and activists out there who are going to hang out with these folks, I'd appreciate it if you'd drop me a line and tell me if my hypothesis that this group is just a front for PFOC seems justified. I'd like to believe otherwise, but their rhetoric just reeks of PFOC politics. You can dress up horseshit, but it still smells the same. ▼

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AIDS Community Research Consortium Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites lo-cated in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials avail-able, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia Unit At St. Mary's Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Ed Schultz, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund Provides financial assistance people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project Mixed caregivers and

AIDS Memorial Grove Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replant at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Support Group 2+ years since diagnosis. No charge, fees paid by Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Resource Group. Thursdays, 1.pm. Call Gail Winston for intake: 552-7517.

AIDS Treatment Education Network Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strate-gies. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project
Offers family counseling, support groups and
events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and
transgendered members. 566-5683.

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Baylands Family Circle Non-profit group of families headed by gay, les-bian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for so-cial. Call Tom, 858-2800.

Buddhist AIDS Project Provides Info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

Catholic Charities
Residential and direct HIV services include Guerrero House, Peter Claver Community, more. 814
Mission. 281-1200.

Clinica Esperanza
The HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health
Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Community United Against Violence Begins training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

Connections
Is a confidential, one-on-one peer support for ing on HIV prevention by and for gay men of color, free. Call 356-8114.

Continuum HIV Day Services An adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Medical services, counseling, therapy, meals, ac-tivities. 241-5500.

Davies Med. Center Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. Info: 565-6369.

DNCB Treatment Group
Discussion and support group focuses on cell-mediated immunity. First Thurs. of each month, 7:30pm, Gazebo Rm., Davies Med. Cntr., Castro & Duboce. 954-8896.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 572-9702.

RABRIC

A support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues, 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service Seeks gay-sensitive law students as Law Clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic
Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, er Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley Wheelchair accessible 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled)

Gay Young Spirit .

A new spiritual/social group for gay men in their 20s & 30s, meets alternate Tues., 7:15pm, in SF Call 703-7181.

G40+ Club A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997. Healing Alternatives Foundation Maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Re-source Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

Community and emotional support for anyone facing life challenges, HIV, cancer. Thursdays, 7pm. Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. 469-9950

Health Support Services For PWAs and their caregivers, Wednesda 9pm, Marin Treatment Center, 1466 Linco Ave., San Rafael. Registration: 457-3755.

HIV Advocacy Network Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Fou dation: phone/fax tree action alerts, governme lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

HIV Positive Drop-in Group Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

HIV Positive Youth Group 18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

Immune Enhancement
Project
Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

INVENTION
Sponsors support groups for HIV
negative men Tues, evenings,
7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka, 522-1785.

Iris Center
Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St.

Community

Health

Laguna Honda Hospital AIDS Unit rrovides compassionate care to PWAs who SF residents in need of 24-hour nursing care Call 664-1580.

Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program (LYFE) Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian' gay/ bisexual/ transgender youth. 565-7681.

Love's Supreme Desire Radical faerie and friends arts and creative spirit collective. Call Tel-A-Fool, 333-9549.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center Primary health care for women by women. Coun seling, anonymous testing, prevention education, support groups for HIV + women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics STD testing, treatment; HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault Operates sexual assault hotline for men, Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group Provides in-home practical and emotional suport, free, to PWAs. For services or to volunteer, call 863-1581.

Mothers Organizing Mothers Working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 922-4639 or 221-6651 for information.

Native American AIDS Project Support, resources and advocacy for Na Support, resources and advocacy for Native Americans/ Alaskan Natives and their familles affected by HIV. 1540 Market St., Suite 425. Info/intake: 522-2460.

Operation Recovery
Provides substance abuse and mental health Provides substance abuse and mental health treatment for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Drop-in groups for women, 7pm Tues.; for men, 8pm Thurs. Info/intake: 626-7000.

OUTline Free HIV info and support using Windows or Macintosh graphic interface. Info: 554-0555 or info@out.org

Positive Humanists and Friends Club Focus on self-acceptance, promoting belief in Positive Living for Us

ree weekend seminar for fo: Alfredo, 356-8129. Positive Resource
Provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS
To list a job opening or attend an employment op
portunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida Provides peer counseling, legal assistance, work-shops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Richmond Area Multi-Services in SF
Offers low fee counseling/ psychotherapy service
to execual minorities, people with HIV/AIDS. Sup-port/ therapy groups for family/ loved ones of
PWAs in English, Russian, Cantonese, Viet-namese. 668-5955.

Sadhana Brothers Men's Hindu fellowship, evening of chanting, meditation, informal discussion. Call Ed, 647-4388.

Experimental CMV Treatment / Prophylaxis:

In test-tube studies, a new drug has shown activity against cytomegalovirus (CMV), HIV and Kaposi's sarcoma, and appears to improve the anti-CMV effects of ganciclovir. This clinical study will investigate this new drug in CMV-infected people.

Lab evaluations include a free urine CMV screen.

Eligibility Requirements:

- ⇒ HIV-positive, CD4+ count less than 100
- Positive urine culture for CMV
- ⇔ No prior treatment for CMV
- ⇒ No active herpes infections or suppressive therapy with acyclovir
- No AZT or protease inhibitors during the study
- ⇒ No heart condition or cardiovascular disease

You will know what you are taking (there is no "placebo"). The study lasts 6 weeks.

All study drug, lab evaluations and medical exams are provided free of charge.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Chivalrous AIDS support



he award for Junior Amateur Jumper at the San Francisco Classic Horse Show last week was presented to Vicki Juelsgaard (seated) by event chair Peggy Olson, show manager Bobbie Drennon, and founder Virginia Fout. The June 19-23 event raised funds for three charities, including the Equestrian AIDS Foundation. No animal rights activists were seen complaining about conditions.

BAY A REA REPORTER SIFIE

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Gay Men's HIV Psychotherapy Group

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE MERIT FILE NJ. 205646
The following person(s) are doing business as ITS YOUR FORTUNE, 6029 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94212: Steven G. Wayland, 6029 Geary Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94212. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 24, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Steven G. Wayland. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 24, 1996. CA on June 24, 1996. June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205355

STATEMENT FILE NO. 205355
The following person(s) are doing business as P.T.A. TOURS, 50 Minerva St., San Francisco, CA 94112; Judy D. Avegalio, 50 Minerva St., San Francisco, CA 94112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Judy D. Avegalio. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 12, 1996.

June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 1996.

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205590 STATEMENT FILE NO. 205590
The following person(s) are doing business as THE VENDOR MENDOR, 10 Cumberlands St., San Francisco, CA 94110:
Thomas R. Thompson, 10 Cumberland St., San Francisco, CA 9410:
Commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A.
This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Thomas R. Thompson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 20, 1996. CA on June 20, 1996. June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 205552
The following person(s) are doing business as 1. PENNZOUL 10 MINUTE 0IL
CHANGE, 2. QUICK LUBE 0F SAN
RAFAEL AND SANTA ROSA, 134 Paul
Dr. #101, San Rafael, CA 94903:
William R. Nelson, 111 Lagunitas Road,
Ross, CA 94975. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October, 1987. This business is conducted by an limited partnership. Signed William R. Nelson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1996.
June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 20557
The following person(s) are doing business as 1. LAVENDER SWEEP, 2. LAVENDER SWEEP, 3. 322 Prentiss, San Francisco, CA 94110: Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club Political Action Committee, 332 Prentiss, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 19, 1996. This business is conducted by a not for profit political organization (chartered Democratic club). Signed Jeff Sheehy. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the Cly and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1996. June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 205542
The following person(s) are doing business as 450 ARCHITECTS, INC, 450
Clementina St., San Francisco, CA
94103: 450 Architects, Inc. (CA), 450
Clementina St., San Francisco, CA
94103: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 1, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Richard Lee Parker. This statement was filed with the County Of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1996.
June 27, July 4, 11, 19, 2007.

June 27. July 4. 11. 18. 1996 STATEMENT FILE NO. 205530
The following person(s) are doing business as WILDEST DREAMS, 225 Precita Avenue, San Francisco, CA 9410: Dena Reiner, 225 Precita Avenue, San Francisco, CA 9410: Dena Reiner, 225 Precita Avenue, San Francisco, CA 9410. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 1, 1996.
This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Dena Reiner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1996.
June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.
FICTITIOUS RHISINESS NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205525

18, 1996. June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE 979004 CHANGE OF NAME FILE 979004
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the
matter of the application of ANGELA
ROSEMARIE NAPLES for change of
name. The application of ANGELA
ROSEMARIE NAPLES for change of name,
having been filled in Court, and It appearing from said application that ANGELA
ROSEMARIE NAPLES has filed an application proposing that HER name be
change to ARI RWINI GROSSMANNAPLES. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this
Court in Department X-4 on the 26th day of July, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA RE-PORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 14th day of June 1996. day of June, 1996. June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.

day of June, 1996.

June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO.

978612

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of YING TONG for change of name. The application of YING TONG for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that YING TONG has filed an application proposing that HER name be change to GRACE YING TONG. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 12th day of July, 1996, at 9:00 of Clock AM, of Said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be gramted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 30th day of May of Said hearing. Dated this 30th day of May of Said hearing. Dated this 30th day of May of Said hearing. Dated this 30th day of May of May. four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 30th day of May, 1996. June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1996.

June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1996.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 205253
The following person(s) are doing business as RON LOVE'S TOURS, 1055 Haight St, San Francisco, CA 94117: Ronald Warren Schulknecht, 1055 haight St, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Ronald Warren Schulknecht. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 10, 1996. 1996. June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205225 STATEMENT FILE NO. 205225
The following person(s) are doing business as BLUZOID RECORDS, 714 Clearfield Dr., Millbrae, CA 94030: Ted Savarese, 714 Clearfield Dr., Millbrae, CA 94030. Ted Savarese, 714 Clearfield Dr., Millbrae, CA 94030. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 7, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Ted Savarese. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 7, 1996. San Francisco, CA on June 7, 1996. June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205472 STATEMENT FILE. NO. 205472
The following person(s) are doing business as RIDGEBACK PRESS, 427 4th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118; Jeff Cohen, 427 4th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 17, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jeff Cohen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco. CA on June 71 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205257 STATEMENT FILE NO. 205257
The following person(s) are doing business as K.C. CONSTRUCTION INC., 538 Stone Rd #G, Benicai, C.A 94530; K.C. Construction Inc. (CA), 737 Wedgewood, Pittsburg, CA 94563. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Kelley Howerton. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 10, 1996. 10, 1996. June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205328 STATEMENT FILE NO. 205328
The following person(s) are doing business as REATIVE HERBALS, 1171 Filbert St., San Francisco, CA 94109; Victoria Stein, 1171 Filbert St., San Francisco, CA 94109; Howard Hankin, 4001 California St. #10, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 12, 1996. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed Victoria Stein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 12, 1996.

June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 1996.

REQUEST FOR BIDS FROM QUALIFIED PROVIDERS

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Interested parties should fax an indication of interest to the San Francisco Fire Department by Friday, July 5 at 3 PM.

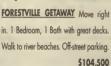
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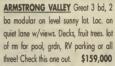


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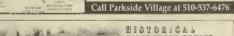
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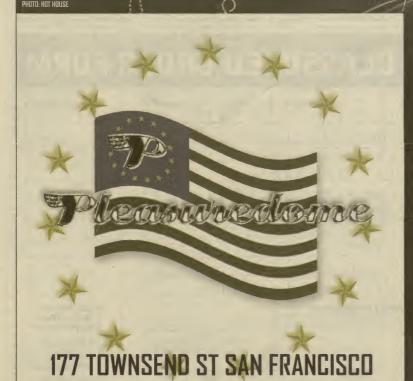
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Gay seniors GLOE with pride and wisdom

by Jaime Cader

large contingent of gay and lesbian seniors from throughout the greater Bay Area is expected to participate in this year's Freedom Day Parade.

The organizing agency for this group is GLOE (Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders), which has its office at New Leaf, formerly Operation Concern.

formerly Operation Concern, located at 1853 Market Street in located at 1853 Market Street in San Francisco. A special feature of the GLOE contingent will be two cable cars carrying seniors that lead active lives, some with physical disabilities.

George Roosen, GLOE men's coordinator, said that having the two cable cars is a great victory for the seniors because this will help increase participation. Gay

for the seniors because this will help increase participation. Gay and lesbian senior groups have been relatively small in previous pride celebrations. This year, however, the seniors were adamant about being in the parade. The cable cars will be a way of outreach and as a result more gay elders will "come out," Roosen said.

A gay senior himself, Roosen

Roosen said.

A gay senior himself, Roosen is very knowledgeable, wise, and dedicated to gay senior causes. As he reminisced about his move to San Francisco from the Los Angeles area back in the fifties, he said, "I couldn't believe how gays were so closeted [here]." He said that many gays came to live in San Francisco after the end of World War II and a great majority of them went into the bankity of them went into the bank-ing and insurance industries, which were extremely uptight. Consequently, gays working in these environments remained closeted for about 50 years.

closeted for about 50 years. According to Roosen, a fair number during that period remained fairly content in their secret groups. And contrary to what many people now believe, there was a great deal of sexual activity. The norm was informal social and sexual connections. Amazingly, Roosen, savs. every. Amazingly, Roosen says, every-one he has contacted who lived through those years tells a simi-lar story about being closeted, even those from so-called liber-

even those from so-called liber-al Amsterdam.

A person was considered quite odd in the fifties if he or she did not marry. As a result, approximately 50 percent of GLOE'S clients have been mar-ried, and about the same num-ber have children and grandchil-

Overcoming isolation

Isolation is the greatest prob-lem GLOE'S staff sees in gay seniors. This is the result of private connections becoming niors. This is the result of private connections becoming smaller or ceasing to exist. Many have to adjust to coming out and to getting old. Other problems include those largely having to do with health, income, and loneliness. There is also a great fear of heigh outself by govern. fear of being outed by govern-ment agencies, especially in the

ment agencies, especially in the gay senior community.
GLOE's services include support/discussion groups, educational workshops, social events, activity groups, and a speakers bureau. Ruth Morales, a social worker, runs the Friendly Visiting program, which sends volunteers to less able and isolated seniors. to less able and isolated seniors



A member of the Old Lesbian Organizing Committee waves to ns along the parade route from

GLOE is one of the few agencies for lesbian/gay seniors in the country. It provides sensitivity training for servicegivers and outreach to gay seniors. The agency also tries to connect client seniors to services they are

legally entitled to.

Outreach is done mostly by word of mouth. Social workers and community leaders familiar with the agency's services con-tinually refer seniors. Most clients are outgoing and have been active politically and so-cially for many years. Some have become noticeably mote active as an outcome of participating in GLOE events. ▼

For more information on

For more information on GLOE and the gay senior cable car contingent, call (415) 626-7000. All donations to help pay for the cable cars will be greatly appreciated.
Other Bay Area groups joining the GLOE contingent in this year's Pride Parade: G40+, East Bay Lavender Seniors, Spectrum (of Marin County), Fellows of the East Bay.

RESOURCES

Other Bay Area groups joining the GLOE contingent in this year's Pride Parade:

East Bay Lavender Seniors (510) 247-2406 G40+ Club (415) 552-1997

Spectrum Center of Marin County (415) 457-1115

Additional resources:

African-American Lesbians 40+ (510) 444-7661 or (510) 268-1646

Berkeley Gray Panthers (510) 527-3790 Billy DeFrank Community Center of Santa Clara County 175 Stockton Avenue, San Jose (408) 293-2429 Deaf Gay & Lesbian Center (415) 885-2341 (TDD); (800) 735-2922 (California Relay) Leading Ladies (415) 487-9669

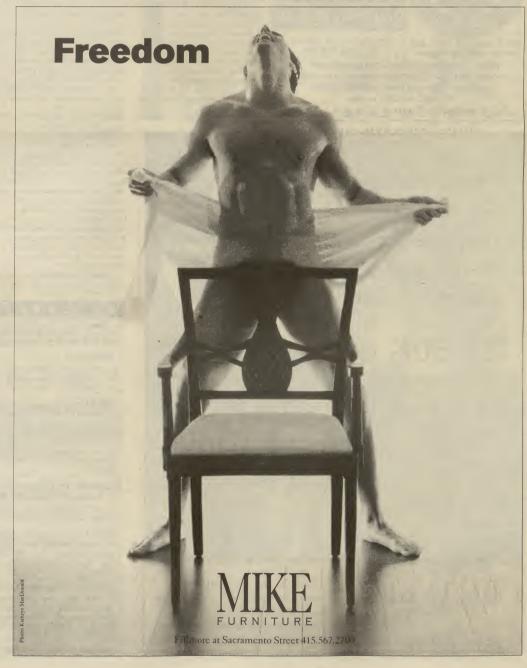
National Association for the Visually Handicapped's Lesbians Age-Related Eyesight Loss Group (415) 221-3201
Old Lesbians Organizing for Change P.O. Box 980422, Houston TX 77098.

Older Asian Sisters in Solidarity (OASIS) (415) 341-6603 or (510) 482-0787

or (310) 452-0787 Options for Women over 40 (415) 837-0157 Independent Living Resource Center (415) 863-0581 SF Commission on Aging Senior Information Line (415) 552-6016

SF Commission on Aging Information and Referral Line (415) 626-1033

(415) 626-1033 Sentinel Fair Housing Northern Alameda County (510) 836-2687; Palo Alto (408) 468-7464 Senior Central (415) 777-3233. Vintage Men (408) 244-9009







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PFLAG: Helping the alternative family

by Tavo Amador

ny family with gay or les-bian children is by defini-tion an alternative family," ys Sam Thoron, Regional Direc-or of the mid-Pacific region of arents and Friends of Lesbians nd Gays (PFLAG), probably the rgest and best known organiza-

on designed to help parents hose children come out to them. PFLAG, which currently has a embership of 55,000 house-olds and holds 370 weekly meetings nationally, has three principals. al goals: to support, educate, and dvocate on behalf of gays and ...sbians. "My daughter deserves to be treated with the same respect and dignity as her straight broth-

Thoron, 57, and his wife have three children: two sons, aged 29 and 27, and a daughter, 25. He is a distinguished-looking man with a direct, unthreatening style, and his approach, like that of PFLAG in general, is disarming. When Thoron talks about society's unjust treatment of his daughter, of the physical threat to her well-being, other parents listen, even those not initially inclined to be sympathetic. Since most parents are con-cerned about their children's wel-fare, they relate to PFLAG's method of communicating the issues. Like PFLAG, Thoron breaks down a lot of barriers.



Proud pop: PFLAG's Sam Thoron.

PFLAG starts out by offering peer support to parents whose first experience with homosexuality is when their son or daughter comes out of the closet. Thoron recalls that his first reaction to learning about his daughter's homosexuality was to ask, "How do you know?" Her response: "How did you know you were heterosexual, dad?" It was a fair question, Thoron recalls, adding that this sort of exchange is characteristic of what goes on in families. "Our society, with its historic homo-

society, with its historic homo-phobia, makes coming out painful for the child and for the parents." Peer counseling helps parents understand that they "did not do anything wrong" and are "not at fault," which are the usual reac-tions. Counselors explain that the problem is not with being gay or lesbian, says Thoron, but "with so-ciety's prejudices, ignorance, and ciety's prejudices, ignorance, and traditional intolerance, which often lead to physical attacks on homosexuals and contribute enor-mously to the high rate of teen sui-cide among gay and lesbian kids." The counseling is provided by fathers, mothers, grandparents, or other close family members, whose personal experience helps them relate to what parents just learning about their child's sexuality are going through.

Providing personal support is a valuable service, but PFLAG does

tion programs, the organization enlightens communities about ho-mosexuality and shows the connection between prejudice, particularly homophobic hate language, and the violence done to gay and

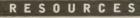
and the violence done to gay and lesbian youth, and, as a result, to society in general.

The idea for PFLAG was born when Jeanne Manford in New York saw footage of her son being beaten during the Stonewall riots, while the police stood by doing nothing. Angered, Manford immediately wrote a public letter to the New York Post saying that she loved her gay son.

loved her gay son.
In 1972, at the second annual
New York Gay Pride Day Parade, Manford carried a sign saying, "Parents of Gays, Unite in Support of Our Children." The organization was officially founded in 1981 in Los Angeles, when Adelle Starr and others who had been involved in local parent support groups started a national federation.

The third major goal of PFLAG is to advocate for an end to civil rights discrimination against gays and lesbians. "We don't want special rights,' as some allege," says Thoron. "We want the same rights for our homosexual same rights for our homosexual children as everyone else enjoys in this country." This advocacy takes several forms. Under the leadership of the Houston Chapter, for example, over 200 volunteer parents from 25 states went to Washington to meet with their senators and representatives to talk about ending discrimination against ending discrimination against

gays and lesbians.
PFLAG is a U.S. organization
but is affiliated with similar
groups in Canada and other
countries. It is tax-exempt and receives no government funding. Almost all of its costs are covered by individual membership fees. For more information, PFLAG can be contacted at 1101 14th Street NW, Suite 1030, Washington, D.C. 20005. Annual member-ship costs \$30. The San Francisco Bay Area help line number is (415) 921-8850. ▼



All in the family; the following is a list of organizations in the Bay Area and beyond with an agenda similar to PFLAG:

Asian Pacific Islander division of PFLAG: Network of families of API gay/lesbian/bi/transgender people. Sponsored by the Living Well Project. For information, call 921-8850.

The flip side of PFLAG may be Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE), a recently formed organization dealing with the specific issues confronting children of homosexual parents. In 1993, COLAGE went national and now has about 20 chapters across the country. Its SF office is located at 2300 Market Street, #165, San Francisco, CA 94114. For information, call (415)

Lavender Youth Recreation & Information Center (LYRIC)

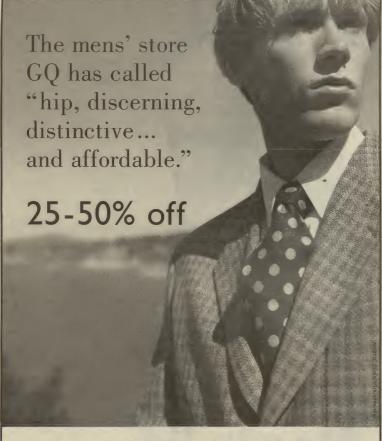
127 Collingwood Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. For information, call (415) 703-6150.

GALTIP

Provides individual and family counseling for lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender and questioning youth, ages 22 and under and their families. Free. Only in San Mateo. Call 342-5216 for infor-

Gay Youth Community Coalition of the Bay Area

GYCC works on projects that will benefit young gay, lesbian, bisexual persons in handling Issues of their sexuality. Ages 13-15. Offers educational services, networking and technical assistance to organizers. P.O. Box 846, San Francisco, CA 94101-0806.



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Queer youth have a home at LYRIC

by Jesse Costello-Good

few Mondays ago several youths assembled after school at the Eureka Valley Rec Center to play volleyball. These kids weren't part of a high school team or youth league, they were from LYRIC (Lavender Vouth Berration and Inform Youth Recreation and Informa-tion Center). Summer volleyball is just one of the many services that LYRIC offers to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and ques-tioning youth under the age of 23. LYRIC was founded in 1988 to

offer social activities such as dances and softball games to queer youth. At the time there were very few services for these young people. Originally volun-teer-based, LYRIC began to ex-pand in 1991 with a series of grants from various gay organiza-tions and the city of San Francisco. In 1993, LYRIC purchased its current home at 123-127 Colling-wood Street, one block off Castro

LYRIC's services center around the Youth Talkline, which is one of three most comprehensive gay talklines in the country. This line, which can be reached free of charge 24 hours a day from anywhere in the country, offers emotional sup-port and referral to any youth questioning his or her own sexual-ity. During evening hours, youth can talk one-on-one with trained peers. For many who call, the talk-line is the first step in coming out.

For queer youth who need a place to hang out, LYRIC has an After School Program. This is lo-cated at 123 Collingwood Street, in the basement of the LYRIC house, and is open every weekday after-noon from 3 to 6 p.m. The After School Program is a drop-in space where all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth 18 years old and under are welcome. It offers a variety of ac-tivities, from arts and crafts to

importantly, the After School Program is a place where young sexual minorities can meet and interact

in a friendly and safe environment.

Every Thursday the program is extended until 9 p.m. and is called Fun House. During this time, about 20 young men and women watch a rented movie and eat free pizza. Of all of LYRIC's weekly programs, this one attracts the

programs, this one attracts the most participants.

In keeping with its original goal of providing social opportunities for queer youth, LYRIC continues to organize dances and field trips. These activities offer youth an alternative to the generally heterosexist environment of high exhapt. high school functions. This year LYRIC has already put on two dances, a winter formal and a spring dance. Both were free and attracted about 100 youths from all over the Bay Area.

LYRIC has smaller projects like the Young Men's HIV & Educa-tion Program and the Young Women's Program, which each

run a weekly meeting group. LYRIC also offers job training to gay youth. These programs ensure that queer youth grow up to be healthy, active, and contributing members of the community.

LYRIC is helping to coordinate the youth contingent in the Pride March on June 30th. To take part, contact Anne at (415) 863-3636.

One of LYRIC's projects is the Young, Loud & Proud youth leadership conference on July 13-14. Four hundred youth are expected to converge on San Francisco for the two-day youth-led conference that will teach queer youth to empower themselves and actively pursue community involvement.



RESOURCES

The following are Bay Area resources for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth:

LYRIC Talkline

for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth 23 and under. (415) 863-3636, (800) 246-7743 $\,$

Brothers Network

for black gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning men, 25 and under. $(415)\ 356-8145$

AQUA

for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian/Pacific Islander youth, 25 and under. (415) 575-3939 ext. 316, Lulu

Operation Concern

Low cost counseling referrals, (415) 626-7000

for Latino gay men, Latina lesbianas, bisexuales, and vestidas 25 and under. (415) 864-7278

Anonymous HIV Test Information

(415) 621-4858

Information about Needle Exchange (415) 861-6710

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for victims of gay bashings, domestic violence, and sexual assault against gay men. (415) 333-4357

The Pacific Center (Berkeley)

for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth in the East Bay. (510) 548-2192

The Billy DeFrank Center (San Jose)

for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth in the South Bay. (408) 293-4525

Spectrum (San Anselmo)

for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth in the North Bay. (415) 457-1115

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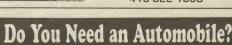
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Femme with a twist - those little touches say so much.

neighbors!" folks are joined by peo-ple celebrating existence beyond the mainstream, who, in turn, are

Sure, we can look to the leather people, those technicians of altered states of consciousness, for answers, as well as to the rainbow within a rainbow of the transsexual and transgen-der folks. And, indeed, this section of our Pride Day resource guide is dedicated to these "alternatives." But in a community in which

different is normal, sometimes the people who seem ordinary by comparison end up being "alter-native" in their own right. Take, for example, the lesbian community, where you have one group of women reviving butch/femme and another group of women standing fast for androgynous/an-drogynous (or generic/generic). In such a milieu, the really weird people are those in femme/femme relationships. You know, the lesbianism of lesbianism? The queer that dare not speak its name?

What better alternative group

to feature, then, than a highly sucto feature, then, than a mighty suc-cessful social club, support net-work and budding community called Femme-To-Femme? Femme-To-Femme began two years ago when Anita Lynn, a

computer database professional felt let down by friends who said felt let down by friends who said her last relationship wouldn't have ended if she'd had a butch around the house. She got tired of being told she was too "straight-looking" to be a real lesbian, of getting ignored or ridiculed in the clubs, of the difficulty of meeting other "lipstick lesbians." Ready to admit defeat, she placed a person-al ad in hopes of finding the ten or so feminine women she figured or so feminine women she figured might be interested in getting to-gether for brunch.

Little did she know how starved other femme-loving-fem-inine women were for a social enwironment of their own: after the weekend her ad first ran, the paper called, begging her to retrieve her messages because she'd gotten so many they'd crashed the voice mail system's memory! Lynn skipped the brunch and proceed-ed to organize full-scale social events; within six months she had a mailing list of 500 women from all over the Bay Area for FTF.

Redefining femininity

But FTF is anything but a collection of gay "spritzheads." The organization aims to provide a supportive community for femme and soft butch lesbian and bisexual women who want to reclaim femininity as an unlimited source of strength founded in love. Femininity includes many things for which women seem to have a flair rich wolltel seem to have a half - communication, affectionate friendships, networking, nurturing and self-discovery.

But what has passed for femininity in American culture is a

watered-down, bonsai-like ver-sion meant to be a public utility for a male-oriented (and dominated) social order – ridiculed in direct proportion to the extent it has been exploited. No wonder so many lesbians have equated it with weakness: women have not been allowed to self-direct its power outside the limited sphere of "women's work." FTF has begun doing the gender

role-bending work of having woman-loving women redefine femininity. To paraphrase the late John Belushi, FTF says, "It's not fem-ininity till we say it's femininity!"

And so, FTF events (there are two or three per month) began to attract "soft butch" women look-

ing for a safe space in which to explore their own feminine side. But how do lesbians keep a social club from settling into being just a cruising zone that never reaches critical mass as a community? FTF emphasizes not only fun but also values. It believes strength and security come not from attitude and defensiveness but from time-honored values like honor, communication, responsibility

Etiquette encouraged

At FTF events, a welcoming committee greets women as they arrive and leads communication games to introduce each woman games to introduce each woman to others in the room. Making friendships, drawing out shy women and sharing laughter are encouraged; snobbery, backbiting and cliques are discouraged.

Singles can mingle while cou-ples socialize comfortably, know-ing their relationships will be respected and honored (tiny hearts on their name tags signify commitment). Here, sweetness, sensitivity and the social graces are a means of appreciating, encourage ing and empowering women who, as feminine women, have been devalued in the lesbian communidevalued in the lesbian communi-ty in the same way women are de-valued in the larger world.

Some may find this insuffi-ciently queer. Others may think

the potential for fetish value makes it incredibly queer. And "alternative." Actually, FTF's envisioning what femininity – wom-anly strength, character and wis-dom – can really mean has histordom – can really mean has histor-ical precedent in the first glim-mers of the notion of a "women's community," before radical femi-nists decided anything billing it-self as "lesbian" had to meet their political standards and exist to further their agenda.

Long-range visions for FTF in-clude more communications and networking. Lynn is currently at work on a book of interviews with feminine lesbian and bisexual women. She hopes a stable com-munity can come from FTF, one that women growing up and com-ing out will discover and replenish, with the veterans perhaps even planning old age homes for femme dykes. That may not sound like much of an alternative but it will be if it works. ▼

reached by voice mail at 707/747-5400 or by pager at 510/308-5295.



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RESOURCES

The following is a list of resources for people interested in exploring alternative sexual or social scenes:

S/M EDUCATION/SUPPORT

LINKS. P. 0. Box 420989 San Francisco, CA 94142-0989. (415) 703-7159. \$20 gets you a one-year subscription to the monthly LINKS calendar (lots o' stuff on it!), plus advance notice of their play parties.

Janus. Pansexual group. The Janus Hot line. Leave your messages here! (415) 985-7117. The Janus Event line (415) 985-7118.

Outcasts. Education, support and social group for women (les-blan, bi, trans). Monthly meetings 3rd Friday of month. P.O. Box 31266. San Francisco, CA 94131-0266. (415) 487-5170.

QSM. Education, bookstore. QSM, P.O. Box 880154, SF, CA 94188. For location and further information, call 415-550-7776 or 800-537-5815

Pervert Scouts. Yes, it's as silly and fun as it sounds. Fortnightly Saturday afternoon "playshops" for women. (415) 285-7985. One-stop surfing: Cuir Underground's leather links page at

LEATHERMEN

Leathermen Discussion Group. Wide-ranging discussions, just be sure to come in dead cow. (415) 647-6817.

Deaf Leather Resources. Communication Access Network (C.A.N.) 218 Castro St. San Francisco, CA 94114.

Northern California Leather Association of the Deaf. Box 641511. San Francisco, CA 94164-1511. email Deaf Queer Resource Center: DRQC@hooked.net.

LEATHER IN DA BURBS

http://www.black-rose.com/cusites/html.

Alameda County Leather Corps. Lots o' fun events (mostly in Hayward), with friendly, kinky folks. Send SASE to become member, or come to a meeting. P.O. Box 20759, Castro Valley, CA 94546. Event line: (510) 644-4270.

South Bay Leather Schmooze. First Thursday of every month, 7-9 p.m. in the Main Hall at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 175 Stockton Avenue, San Jose (except July).

Southbay Leather and Uniform Group (S.L.U.G.): BBQ 2-4 p.m., second sunday of Every Month. Buck's Stockade, 305 Stockton Avenue, San Jose. All are welcome. Cost typically is \$5 for BBQ.

S/M Rap. Fourth Thursday of every month, 7-9 p.m. Come and rap about S/M topics with other interested folk. All are welcome. Buck's Stockade, 305 Stockton Avenue, San Jose.

STORES/SERVICES

Stormy Leather. Great toys and fetish wear (especially women's); also good place to pick up publications and flyers. 1158 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. (415) 626-1672.

Blowfish. Toys and safer-sex supplies. 2261 Market Street #284. San Francisco, CA 94114. (415) 285-6064.

The Gauntlet. Expert piercing. 2377 Market (at Castro) in SF.

Good Vibrations. The original vibrator store (and museum)! Toys, books, sex-positive information. 1210 Valencia (SF). (415) 974-8980. Mail order: (415) 974-8990.

Mr. S Leather. Great toys and fetish wear (especially men's). 310 7th Street. (415) 863-7764 or 39 12th Street (in the S.F. Eagle). (415) 255-8333.

Leather Tonque Video, 714 Valencia St. (415) 552-2900.

TRANSGENDER RESOURCES

Brothers Network. Weekly transgender Issues support group (African-American oriented), Tuesdays 1:30-3:30 p.m. 973 Mar-ket Street, Suite 650, San Francisco, CA (415) 356-8140.

FTM International. Where the boys are: female-to-male transsexuals and crossdressers. Monthly meetings in San Francisco. Organization is based in Oakland at: 5337 College Ave., #142 Oakland, CA 94618. (510) 287-2646 (voicemail).

ETVC (TV/TS & friends) Transgender group meets last Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in San Francisco, P.O. Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142. (510) 549-2665.

Intersex Society. Peer support for the physically intersexed (3-5% of the population, interestingly enough). P.O. Box 31791, San Francisco, CA 94131.

Transgender Support meets Wednesdays and Fridays, 1-3 p.m., at Tenderloin AIDS Center. A transgender addiction recovery group meets there, too. 187 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. Info: call Stephanie at (415) 431-7476.

Pacific Center. Referrals to counselors, services. Also hosts a support group for TSs, TVs and anyone with gender issues — "beginners" welcome. Every Friday but last Friday of the month, 8-10 p.m. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley 94704. (510) 548-8283.

Rainbow Gender Association. P.O. Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170-0730. Warmline: (408)-984-4044 (recording).

Sacramento Gender Association, P.O. Box 215456, Sacramento, CA 95821-1456.

Transgender Nation. Direct Political Action. 584 Castro Street #288, San Francisco, CA 94114. (415) 586-6409.

SF Gender Information. They keep a database of providers and resources in Northern California (\$3 plus SASE). Or write with inquiries: SFGI 3637 Grand Avenue, Suite C, Oakland 94610.

One-stop surfing: GenderWeb at http://www/igc.net~lost/tgsites.html or: http://wanda.pond.com/~julie/

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That lovin' feeling

MCC Church: a house of prayer for all

by Mary Richards

he Metropolitan Communi-ty Church (MCC) is celebrating its 26th year of doing the business of God. It's a thriving, successful concern judging from all the people who typically pack themselves into the

typically pack themselves into the bright pink building on Eureka Street every week to celebrate spirituality and togetherness.

The San Francisco MCC has come a long way from its humble beginnings in one of the upper rooms of Jackson's Bar & Grill in North Beach. The property on Eureka Street is now owned outright by the church, with no

mortgage payments hanging around to halt progress. Although the 90-year-old building is in a constant state of renovation, the congregation wouldn't trade it for

"It's a lively place, not a muse um," explains senior pastor Jim Mitulski. "That's how we decided we wanted the church to be. It belongs to the community and it's used by the community — nearly 2,000 people weekly pass

Nearly 50 groups meet at the church on a weekly or monthly basis, making it the closest thing to a gay community center that San Francisco has. "A lot of groups got started here over the

years, because it's such a good lo-cation," Mitulski adds. "We see it

cation," Mittulski adds. "We see it as part of our mission to provide space for groups while they're getting rolling.
"Part of our religious philosophy is that we try to provide for not just the spiritual but the political, the social, the emotional needs of people. We think church chould be interesting lively and should be interesting, lively and relevant. Our services are not period pieces, they're about what's happening now in the lives of les-bians and gay men."

The MCC welcomes anyone

who wants to participate, regard-less of how they perceive them-selves in terms of sexuality. A selves in terms of sexuality. A person doesn't have to be religious in any way, shape or form to attend an MCC service, but even a disinterested observer can't help but be charmed by the camaraderie, sense of humor and simple pleasure that prevails "A the previous of their workship." the practice of their worship. "A number of people come here not because it's a gay- and lesbian-run church," Mitulski says, "but run church," Mitulski says, "but because they stopped going to church in adolescence or early adulthood, because [they thought] church was stupid or ir-

"A lot of people have issues around religion and homosexuality, and they come here for a period of time just to work that out, then don't come back because they're done with it. To me, if a person uses the church in order to free themselves from bondage to bad religion, that's good. This is a church by gay people, for gay people, where everybody is wel-

That same spirit of hospitality That same spirit of hospitality is extended by pastor Sharna Sutherin of the Golden Gate MCC Church in Noe Valley, who says, "We hope that people think of us when they think of a spiritual home." Although their congregation is smaller, they offer similar services to the leshin and similar services to the lesbian and

gay community.
Starting on July 16, the Noe Valley church is offering a five-week couples communication group on Fridays (7:30 p.m.). The group is open to gays and lesbians as a means of improving or strengthening their relation-

ships.

Golden Gate MCC is trying to purchase the building in which they are presently housed, and hope to raise \$122,000 by the end of December. To accomplish this

IFEST

AUGUST Manifest Weekend

feat, they're raffling off a seven-day vacation to Sydney, Australia in July 1997. At \$2 per ticket, Pastor Sutherin points out, this undertak-ing "has better odds than Lotto."

The MCC has many friends, and an extended family of congregations throughout the country and the world. The congregation welcomes participation by people of every denomination to share in their "House of Prayer for All People."

For more information, call (415) 863-4434



MCC's Jim Mitulski

RESOURCES

The following is a list of other lavender-friendly religious and spiritual organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Affirmation: Gay & Lesbian Mormons. A support service and educational non-profit organization with an emphasis on helping Mormons deal with their sexuality and the coming-out process. Discussion groups, potlucks, social activities. Inquiries are welcome via email at: tmerritt@backdoor.com. Web Page available. (415) 641-4554

Buddhist AIDS Project. Provides information on Buddhist resources, events and HIV alternative health services. All volunteer, non-sectarian. Meets Fridays, 7:45 p.m. at 66 1/2 Sanchez (near Duboce). Leave a recorded message with name, address for BAP

City of Refuge Community Church. Open and affirming church that reflects Methodist, Evangelical, Pentecostal and Baptist ser-vices. Approximately 80 percent of multicultural church members are gay or lesbian. Located at Post and Mason Streets. (415) 788-

Congregation Sha'ar Zahar. Reform synagogue with special outreach to GLB members. Services on Fridays (8:15 p.m.) and second Saturdays of the month (10 a.m.). Special Shabbat planned for the Friday of Gay Pride Weekend. Sanctuary is open to everyone. 220 Danvers Street at Caselli. (415) 861-6932

Dignity San Francisco. A faith community of GLBT Catholic family and friends who celebrate sexuality as a gift of God. Meets at 5:30 p.m. every Sunday. 1329 Seventh Avenue (between Irving and Judah). (415) 681-2491.

Enlightened Heart Meditation Center. Tibetan-lineage Ameri can Buddhist sect. Small, open-minded, mixed group of gay and straight men and women. (415) 255-0798.

Gay Young Spirit (GYS). A discussion and social group for young gay men in their 20s and 30s with focus on spirituality, creativity, fun and interaction. Planned activities include camping trips, dinner socials, movie nights and game parties. At present there are 30 members, but it's growing. Meets Tuesday evenings in SF. Voicemail messages are welcome. (415) 703-7181.

Gay Buddhist Fellowship. Association for gay and bisexual men who are actively seeking Buddhism, or who are interested in learnng more about the practice. General meetings are held the second and fourth Sunday of each month (10:30 a.m.) at the Zen Hospice Project, 273 Page Street. Call for a Bulletin Board of upcoming events and general information. (415) 974-9878.

Healing Circle. Support group of men and women for discussion of problems such as parents, childhood, speaking out, grief, life-threatening illness (especially HIV and cancer). Hands-on, non-sexual touching/massage (in group) is an option. Facilitator present. Group is open to everyone. Meets Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Suggested donation is \$5, "but a smile is just as good." (415) 469-9950.

MCC Church of San Francisco. Christian family welcoming all people, joining together from diverse spiritual backgrouds, and ministering primarily within the lesbian and gay community. Three Sunday services: 9 a.m. (meditative service); 11 a.m. (festive community gathering); 7 p.m. (high-energy service with pop and gospel music). 150 Eureka Street. (415) 863-4434.

MCC Golden Gate. Smaller version of original MCC Church located in Noe Valley. Services at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sundays; Fridays 1 p.m. prayer group. Women's spirituality session held third Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Located at 1508 Church St. at 27th St. in SF. (415) 642-0294.

Oasis California. Gay and lesbian ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of California. Focus is education and advocacy with gay-friendly congregations located throughout the Bay Area. E-mail: oasiscalif@aol.com, Or call (415) 522-0222.

Positive Humanists & Friends Club. Discussion groups exploring positive directions around HIV issues. Guided meditations and workshops for usually five-to-eight people meet on Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Call for address. (415) 285-0606.

Transcendental Meditation Project. To learn more about TM, courses are being taught at 870 Market Street, Suite #1175 (in the Gap building). Email: Loganberry@AmericaOnline.com. (415)

Trinity Episcopal Church. All-inclusive Christian community with an emphasis on healing, especially for people with AIDS. Provides counseling and referral for gays and lesbians; and awareness groups for people with AIDS (on an as-needed basis). Corner of Bush and Gough Streets. (415) 775-1117.

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Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — fading to black?

by Dianne Aaronson

rcadia Bodybuilding Society (ABS) has been a major force in the gay/lesbian athletic community since 1986. Born out of Gay Games II, it was created by George Birimisa and some like-minded friends in an effort to maintain the exhilaration and camaraderie that otherwise oc-curred only once every four years. And it worked, at least for a while.

In 1987, the first annual gay/lesbian bodybuilding contest, Physique '87, was held at Mission High School in San Francisco. The response was overwhelming, both response was overwhelming, both from audience and competitors. As a contestant in that show, I can attest to the love and support that poured forth from the audience and succeeded in carrying us through to the end. The next year, Physique '88 crossed a heretofore heterosexual guideline by opening up the pairs category to same-sex up the pairs category to same-sex couples — an event that brought the house down. Community interest swelled, making the annual physique contest an event to look forward to by people on both sides of the stage. After winning the Cable Car Award for Most Outstanding Competitive Event three years in a row, Physique was in-ducted into the Cable Car Awards Hall of Fame in 1990. As an indi-cator of how far it had come, Physique '90 was held in Herbst Theatre instead of the gym at Mission High, the venue of its humble beginnings.
What Arcadia Bodybuilding

Society was less known for, however, was its outreach and education programs for the larger communi-ty. Each year, from January through June, monthly seminars were held on Sunday evenings at Market Street Gym. Presented by



A buffed and beautiful bodybuilder.

members of the Education Committee of ABS, topics included proper weight-training techniques, diet and nutrition, supplements, posing instruction and contest preparation (pre-contest dieting, stage presentation, etc.). These seminars enabled potential com-petitors to learn the ropes for a nominal fee. More importantly, a community was created that of-fered mutual support and enthusi-asm for athletes trudging the long hard road to victory. A large num-ber of women, PWAs, and people over the age of 50 competed in the annual physique contest, proving once again that limitations are a

figment of our imagination.
As a result of ABS' efforts to create a community of mutual respect and support, San Francisco represented an enormous number of bodybuilders at the Vancouver 1990 Gay Games. Most of the medals awarded that year came back with us to SF—a direct benefit of the tight-knit teamwork of the ABS members. While in Vancouver, the ABS team acted as ambassadors, networking with body-builders from other cities and inviting competitors to the annu-al SF physique contest. And they came. Not only that, but gay bodybuilding organizations began to spring up in other parts organ to spring up in other parts of the country as well. Dallas was the first gay city to follow suit in 1991 with its own gay/lesbian bodybuilding contest, followed by Seattle in 1993. As a display of support, SF athletes attended and competed in both shows.

Meanwhile, back at home, in-

terest seemed to be waning. Fewer

competitors were registering for contests, audiences were decreas-ing, and ABS board members were burning out. Due to lack of inter-est (and, as a result, lack of funds) est (and, as a result, lack of tunds) no physique contest was presented in 1994 or 1995, nor will there be one this year. The burned-out board members have been replaced over the years by people with more energy, but who, according to some, lack the benefit of experience. A seminar series was initiated in the fall of 1995 was initiated in the fall of 1995, but after a few poorly attended meetings, was discontinued.

The current board hopes that interest will pick up again in 1997, as athletes anticipate the 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam. At present,

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society is on a holding pattern — reluctant to close its books, which would mean relinquishing the coveted 501c(3) status of a non-profit organization. Perhaps the '80s marked a time of unparalleled enthusiasm in bodybuilding that may never again be building that may never again be seen in the gay/lesbian athletic community. If this is so, it's good to look back and remember our roots, and this summer, on ABS' 10th anniversary, give thanks to an old friend. ▼

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society is located at 1230 Market Street, #221, San Francisco, CA 94114. Call 978-9495.

RESOURCES

Though interest in bodybuilding competitions has perhaps fallen off in recent years, interest in fitness — and looking good — continues full force. The following are a few gay-friendly gyms in the general Castro area, along with a short list of trainers. All have several years' experience and are certified, most by the ACSM, the gold standard for trainers. An asterisk denotes previous involvement with ABS, either as a volunteer, board member or competitor.

City Athletic Gym, 2500 Market Street; 552-6680 Gold's Gym, 333 Valencia Street; 626-8865 Market Street Gym, 2301 Market Street; 626-4488 Muscle System, 2275 Market Street; 863-4700 Women's Training Center, 2164 Market Street; 864-6835

241-1557

642-9132 *Dianne Aaronson *Anthony Durante 563-2007 764-5267 346-5432 *Armando Luna Sean McConnell 824-5084 *Lisa Schoenberg *Roh Walton 821-2865

Allison Wahl



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RACE. INFINITE

DragNet

Digital Queers: wired for activism

by Paul Bollwinkel

igital Oueers, a San Francis co-based non-profit organization, was founded on the simple but potent premise that in-formation is power. Just three years old, DQ raises money to years old, DQ raises money to supply other lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender non-profit groups with computer equipment and training, and while they may have a behind-the-scenes support role in the gay community, there is nothing subtle about their goals. They are in the business of helping others advance a progressive, queer, social, cultural and policies in the social cultural and policies. litical agenda.

Since it was founded in 1993

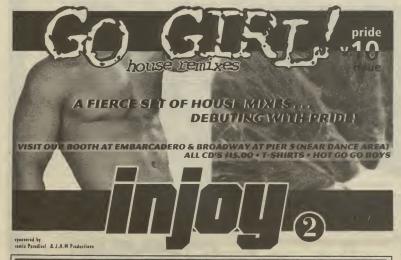


DQ's Karen Wickre (right) with Scott Walton: "DQ is also a way for queer employees to find each other."

by Tom Rielly, a one-time Silicon Valley marketing executive, and Karen Wickre, a freelance writer

and editor for technical publications, DQ's impressive track

page 78 ▶



Clean & Sober Pride Days

SOME IDEAS!

Hang with your clean & sober friends.

Plan a 12 step meeting to START your weekend. Plan one to END your weekend You probably can't see or do it ALL, so don't try to.

The probability and the probability to the country to. Eat breakfast. Eat lunch. Eat dinner. REST.

Carry phone numbers, especially your sponsor's or counselor's. It's OKAY to leave or take a break from it all. It CAN be overwhelming!

A safe, social place to chill is the Castro Country Club, 4058 18th St.

COMMIT! You CAN do this clean and sober AND have fun!

IF YOU NEED A SUNDAY MEETING 8 AM 2185 Market (B) 10:30

AA 2185 Market (B) 650 Gough St 150 Eureka 2185 Market (A) 10:30 11 AM 11:30 NOON NOON 1 PM 2 PM 4 PM 3 PM 501 Steiner 650 Gough St 2185 Market (A) 150 Eureka 2185 Market (A) **401 VAN NESS** 5:30 6 PM 6 PM 6 PM 650 Gough St 2750 Geary, 2nd Fl. 2185 Market (A) 2185 Market (B) 2185 Market (A) 150 Eureka St. 953 De Haro 8 PM 8 PM 8 PM 8 PM 650 Gough St 8:30 261 Fell St 1668 Bush @ Gough 8:30

This listing is produced by the Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgender Substance Abuse Advisory Committee

of Community Substance Abuse Services (255-3521).

Paid for by TARGET CITIES.

IF YOU NEED TO TALK, CALL

Drug Line Suicide Prevention Relapse Line Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Alconolics Anonymous (AA) 621-1326 Narcotics Anonymous (NA) 621-8600 Cocaine Anonymous (CA) 821-6155 Marijuana Anonymous (MA) 522-7373 HIV/AIDS Crisis Nightline 434-AIDS HIV Linea Nocturna 1-800-303-SIDA Target Cities 1-800-750-2727

Living Sober Events

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DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM? for a referral to a treatment program, call Target Cities Central Intake Unit 1-800-750-2727

RESOURCES

The following is a list of Web sites relevant to the lavender tribes. The list has been compiled and edited by Karen Wickre, co-founder of Digital Queers and a writer and editor whose subject is the Internet. She's a contributing editor to The Net and Computer Life magazines, co-author of Atlas to the World Wide Web (Ziff Davis Press, 1995), writer for Yahoo Unplugged (IDG Books, 1995) and editor of Guide to Netscape Navigator 2.0. You can write to her at kwickre@ant.com. kwickre@aol.com

Bisexuality and Related Topics: http://coos. dartmouth.edu/~jcollins/kataBisex.html. Essays; links to more queer and bi info, including a long bisexual resource list. Updated monthly.

Digital Queers: http://www.dq.org/dg/ They're here, they're queer, they have a Web page (watch for a makeover in the summer of '96).

Frameline: http://www.frameline.org
The site for the oldest and largest homo and transgender film fest in the world. Check it out to locate and order tapes of many inde-

Hollywood Supports: http://www.datalounge.com/hsupports HS offers diversity training and information about companies of-fering domestic partner benefits, lesbian and gay employee groups and more. There are currently 250 companies listed here and HS keeps the list up to date.

Human Rights Campaign: http://www.hrcusa.org/

This is a new page with a new name (they're dropping "Fund").
Address includes a "one-stop activism center" through which you can get the lowdown on your Congresspersons in addition to email/fax contact with them on issues of interest.

Infoqueer: http://www/infoqueer.org/queer/qis/
Great metaview — clean, organized topical pages (arts and culture, organizations, publications, etc.) with links to women's sites,
HIV and AIDS information, as well as home pages of people who
are Out on the Webl We have David Stazer and the Berkeley Queer
Info Center to thank for putting this list together.

Lesbian.Org: http://www.lesbian.org/ Ms. AmyGoodloe, a.k.a. the List Mistress, has created a meta-page of resources for lesbians and feminists. Very useful.

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force: http://www/ngltf.org
The grand dame of GLBT organizations (in this lifetime, anyway)
offers a taste of their prodigious white papers and reports on topics
ranging from hate crime to gay marriage.

Out.com: http://www/out.com/ Out magazine online, with references and links to current and past issues, local resources, events listings, and more.

PlanetOut: http://www/planetout.com/
This is the enterprise created by DQ co-founder Tom Rielly that
will launch extensive LGTB information/entertainment/social Website in September 1996. Watch for it. In the meantime send email
for info to info@planetout.com.

PopcornQ: http://www.popcocrnq.com
A large area within PlanetOut that has its own site; it's a vast resource about queer film and video from professional resources to distribution info to global festival news.

TRANSGENDER INFO:

Kate Bornstein-A Transgender Transsexual Postmodern Tiresias: http://english.hss.cmu.edu/ctheory/a-kate_bornstein.html Excerpts from Gender Outlaw and Kate's play, The Opposite is Nei-ther! Also includes an interview with feminist theorist Shannon Bell.

http://www.zoom.com/personal/cindym/indextg.html:
Here is informative and funny, well-organized information about
everything from transvestites to transsexuals and everything in between. Links to organizations, catalogs and shopping information,
libraries geared to ftm and mtf interests. Look for RuPaul and
other TV stars.

WOMEN'S RESOURCES

Feminist Activist Resources on the Net:

reminist Activist resources on the Net:
http://www/igc.apc.org/women/feminist.html
This index page has links to news, resources for political activism,
and issues pages: women of color, domestic violence, health, reproductive rights, global subject areas. Sarah Stapletone-Gray created the page, and we thank her.

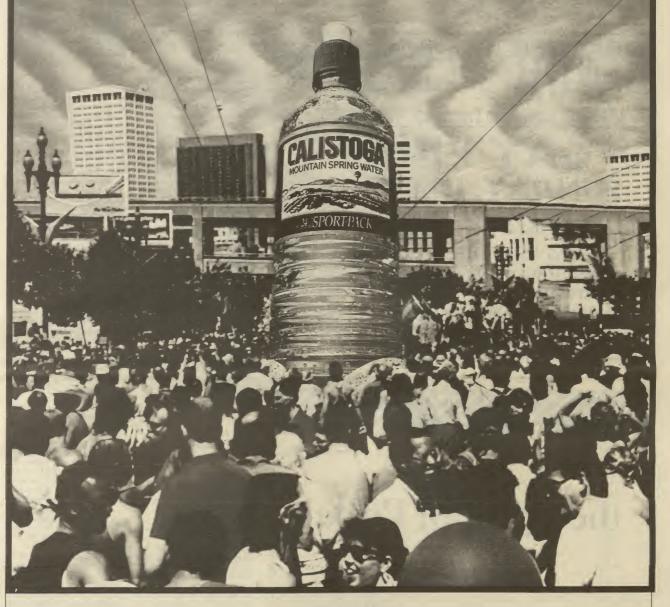
Women's Wire Home Page: http://www/women.com Politics, business, news and features from a '90s feminist perspective.

HIV/SEXUAL INFO

AIDS Treatment News: http://gopher.hivnet.org/70/1s/magazines/atn Searchable database — every issue (now biweekly); John James' yeoman-like production is filed here, from its beginning in April 1986 through the latest biweekly issue. You can also reach ATN by email at aidsnews@aidsnews.org, or by calling 800-TREAT-1-2.



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call 1-888-KAL-GRLS (525-4757)

The Inter-Club Fund turns 25

Going for the gold

by Mister Marcus

n San Francisco's gay/lesbian community, where traditions are launched almost every

other month, one particular tradi-tion looms large in the hearts and minds of the leather/levi/biker/uniform crowd: the Inter-Club Fund (P.O. Box 421862, SF, CA 94142-1862; 415/626-6551).

In the mid-to-late 1960s and early '70s, parking and traffic congestion north of Market Street were no better than today. There were leather bars like the Jumping Frog at Polk near Broadway, and South of Market was the infa-mous 4th and Harrison stronghold, The Tool Box, prominently featured in a 1964 *Life* cover story,

noid, The 1001 Box, prominently featured in a 1964 Life cover story, "Homosexuality in America."

The Tool Box mural by the late Chuck Arnett was shown in that article, with the forbidden pair of white sneakers dangling in the foreground. White sneakers – or any sneakers – were taboo in the Tool Box or any other bar that espoused "butch" masculinity. (Even now, white sneakers worn with black leather is probably the biggest faux pas anyone can make when patronizing leather bars.)

In those days, South of Market was bustling during the day, until blue collar businesses and workers left the area virtually deserted after working hours. The Tool Box enjoyed the most popularity with the leather-folker crowd, but its success dimmed when the Stud Bar opened near Folsom and 12th immediately followed by

success dimmed when the Stud Bar opened near Folsom and 12th, immediately followed by Don Giest and John Kissinger's Febe's Bar on 11th and Folsom. Then came the Ramrod in the 1200 block of Folsom, then the Round Up on 6th and Folsom, which was then a two-way street from 6th to 12th with heavy cruis-

ing the norm almost as soon as the sun went down!

Still later came the Speakeasy on 17th and Florida, the Boot Camp, the Folsom Prison, the Ambush, Red Star Saloon, the Black & Blue, the Arena, the Watering Hole ... and a string of others.

Cliquish clubs

During this watering-hole boom, there were bike/social clubs forming, some of which have since been consigned to the pages of history. The clubs were private affairs in those days, lackprivate ariars in those days, lack-ing the participation of the greater gay/lesbian community, which was how their members liked it. Club uniforms and over-lays were evident in all the popular spots but were viewed as cliquish by the uninitiated. A semi-secret code flourished to the delight of those in the know. When the Bay Area Reporter

When the Bay Area Reporter began publishing every other week in 1971 and made attempts to be inclusionary, the bike clubs were aghast that this leather columnist would dare to print the club names in the paper. I persisted, and now bike/social clubs are



Inter-Club Fund President David

as common a fixture as the name of the next leather title holder.
By 1972, there were some 13 bike/social clubs in San Francisco, and what with their weekend runs and riding around the congested streets, some bikers became vic-tims of bad drivers. Insurance premiums were outrageous even then, and unfortunately, some members were only partially insured or not covered at all.

Bike club members' medical

expenses began to mount, and in 1973, the Inter-Club Fund was born. The setting was the living room of SoMa bartender/manag-er Ken Misso. Besides bike club members, nonaffiliated people
and friends of the biker community were invited to give their
input in the formation of ICF.
In the beginning, the focus was
on raising funds for club members
who had been invited. Been their

on raising tunds for club members who had been injured. Beer busts, garage sales, leather auctions and later the famous Folsom Follies shows and other productions helped establish a substantial bank account, from which funds were doled out to those in need.

AIDS arrives

When AIDS began to take its toll among the bike clubs, the funds were then dispensed as grants - not loans - to both members and friends of the biker combers and friends of the biker com-munity. With the beer busts host-ed at various bars by ICF, the Fol-som Follies show and later the Motorcycle Awards show (given to ICF by the now defunct Bar-bary Coasters Motorcycle Club), the Inter-Club Fund, with member representatives from each club and independent directors, plays a vital role in easing the hard times of others. The current chairman of the Inter-Club Fund, David Scribner,

who is also a member of the Trusted Servants, has proven to be both efficient and community-minded. His work in safeguarding the legacy of ICF is testament to his dedication to preserving the colorful history of one of the city's most active communities.

This group is alive and well, proud of its accomplishments and embarking on yet another quarter century of community service. In short, going for the gold, and its prospects never looked better.

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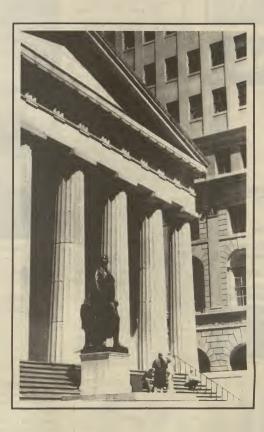
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Sizing up the sovereignty

Reflections on the Imperial Court

by Mary Richards

his year, the Imperial Court system turns 30, no small anniversary for an institution that has received recognition for community service from gov-ernment officials, glamorous celebrities, charitable institutions and just about everyone else who appreciates hardworking people dedicated to success and unparalleled apparel.

leled apparel.

Since its inception in 1966, when Jose Sarria proclaimed himself The Widow Norton and became the first Empress, the Court system has spread throughout the United States and Canada to include 68 similar kingdoms. As it grows stronger, major corporations are beginning to fund this community-based group. Members of the Court group. Members of the Court come from all walks of life and share a certain buoyancy of spirit share a certain buoyancy of spirit that transcends mediocrity. If they dress up, they do it with panache. If they put their names forward to raise money for a cause, the public knows where the money will go. They abide by the strict rules and regulations set up for a volunteer, non-profit orga-nization, and with style and humor bring their version of "imperial" to San Francisco. Below, we meet three important person-alities of the Court, individuals who have made an inestimable contribution to it and whose



Absolute Empress XXV Marlena.

sense of style have helped make the system what it is today.

Beauty ain't cheap

The walls of Marlena's bar on Hayes Street are replete with plaques of appreciation from various AIDS organizations and charities throughout the city. On one wall, in historical tribute, hangs a large framed collection of pins from many of the Emperors

pins from many of the Emperors and Empresses of San Francisco. The owner of the bar is Marlena, Absolute Empress XXV, who ruled with Emperor Simeon Traw from 1990 to 1991, traveled to 38 states during her reign, and who knows what it takes to win a title. A titleholder can spend anywhere in the vicinity of \$10,000 to \$30,000 of personal funds during her reign. "It costs a lot of money to be an Empress," Marlena says, "your clothing, going out and buying people drinks, and attending functions. You don't just go to gay functions, you go to the gay functions, you go to the Mayor's office. I've been in every Mayor's office that we've had since 1980 — in drag, either representing the Court system or representing myself at general meetings for gay causes.

"To be an Emperor or Empress

of San Francisco is a rough job, and takes a great deal of money. you're not paid to do this job, but you must represent this city, and be dedicated to doing it. And I think that's why all of our Emper-ors and Empresses have been very good in their time, because they were dedicated people. But if you

were dedicated people. But it you really believe in what you're doing, there are those who will help you — and they do come through, it's wonderful."

Marlena has a keen mind for business as well as a heart of gold. Even though she no longer holds a scepter she still pitches in wherever a cause requires someone ever a cause requires someone with sparkle to perk up the pro-

Ayatollah Ginger

Because she's a stickler for rules and regulations, Imperial Grandma Ginger, Empress XIV, is occasionally known by a second title, Ayatollah Ginger. On most Sunday afternoons this rare specimen can be glimpsed behind the bar at Marlena's. With false eyelashes firmly in place, in a flaming red tunic and blonde wig, Ginger,

75, is ready for anything. Like Marlena and many other Court members, Ginger contributes time and energy to fundraisers as a pet project. So far this year, she has raised \$7,600 in the memory of her beloved Emerce Ciery of he open Hand) by performing in the "World's Smallest Drag Show" at the tiny Wooden Horse bar.

To the uninitiated, the Court

system may seem arcane, but Ginsystem may seem arcane, but Gin-ger is always ready to explain its intricacies. "Each year," she says, "the Council of Empresses and Council of Emperors designates five people from within their group to be directors of the Impe-rial Council. They administer throughout the year, which means they have a great deal of fiscal responsibility, because there is quite a bit of money involved, and they are subject to audit."

If a person wants to run for Emperor or Empress, Ginger says, there are specific ways to go about it: "You should get yourself very closely involved with the present Court and do everything in the world to get the attention of its members. Make sure you show people you're able to do things, then go out and do them. When you get ready to run, pick a committee of people who not only have your best interests at heart, but who are able to contribute something to your running, be-cause it is terribly expensive."

History in the making

Matthew Brown is a distinguished gentleman who reigned as Emperor XIV (after Norton) from 1986 to 1987. He is now cochair of the Imperial Board of Trustees and is involved with Marlena in documenting the history of the Court.

Since Mr. Marcus reigned as the first Emperor of San Francisco, the Council of Emperors has added a new dimension to the Court system, joining with their Empresses to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for gay rights

thousands of dollars for gay rights organizations, AIDS groups, children's projects, and gay sports.
"I love being involved, because of charity," Matthew says. "And I also love the pomp and circumstance, which I think is fun."
Looking back at past coronation program books it's obvious the Court has produced pageants and spectacles that could put many Broadway productions to shame.
But the Imperial page of history will disappear if an effort isn't

But the Imperial page of history will disappear if an effort isn't made to save it. "What we want to do," Matthew says, "is get the archives together before all this history is lost, because we've lost so much of it already. We certainly would appreciate anything anyone can drop off at Marlena's in reference to our history, whether it be for the Imperial or the Royal Family." Archival items include programs, pins, pictures and videos of past reigns and coronarideos of past reigns and corona-tions, anything that chronicles this vital part of the gay commu-nity's past. ▼

If you want to know more about the Imperial Court, its history, and how to get involved, all the important players can be found at Marlena's, Hayes at Octavia Streets in Hayes Valley. Call 864-6672.



Financial help for people with HIV

by Dennis Conkin

f any agency in San Francisco is able to assist someone with HIV or AIDS through the tangled maze of benefits programs rules and regulations, it's nine-year-old AIDS Benefit Counselors.

With a seven-person staff, in-cluding five benefits counselors, plus a dozen volunteers, ABC helps an estimated 2,000 clients a year understand and access critically-needed financial benefits and entitlements programs, such as employer-based or private health plans and short- or long-term disability benefits.

term disability benefits.

The agency provides individual benefits assessment, assistance, and advocacy, as well as follow-up contacts and continued assistance at all stages of need for people with HIV, from asymptomatic infection to complete disability.

Last year, it identified an average of \$2,000 in monthly private disability benefits for clients who could no longer work, and gar-

could no longer work, and gar-nered an average monthly income of \$789 in Social Security benefits for clients – and more than \$86,000 in retroactive benefits for

\$86,000 in retroactive benefits for 15 qualifying clients.
And as AIDS demographics continue to shift, programs that service people with AIDS must respond to new—and more difficult to serve—clients.
"When AIDS was largely in the Castro community, or largely affecting economically better-off males, people were more able to care for themselves," according to ABC Executive Director Paul ABC Executive Director Paul

Those people had jobs, they had benefits, they were used to taking care of themselves and filing their paperwork and paying taxes; indigent people are not use to that. They are not part of those systems," he says. "And it's important for us to be on top of that.

"This is where the epidemic has moved, into this population: people who have never really taken care of themselves." But, he said, the basic ABC

But, he said, the basic ABC client demographics have not changed since the agency was founded nine years ago, or since the epidemic first hit.
"Eighty-five percent of our clients are still gay white men, and I think our numbers very accurately reflect the epidemic. We are not disproportionately serving.

not disproportionately serving any one group or the other."

No glass tower

According to Causey, ABC has often meant the difference between financial independence and personal financial disaster for

Our mission is empowerment," he says. "We empower peo-ple with HIV disease by maximiz-ing financial benefits and reducing the economic impact of HIV/AIDS on their daily lives."

The agency has trained benefits advocates for other AIDS services organizations, and provides individual benefits counseling and monthly disability insurance Health Project site at 400 Castro Street, plus off-site services to clients who can't make it to the agency's office.

Providing counseling services in residential or day center set-

Hotel allows ABC to gear services to client needs and wants, without a lot of bureaucratic restrictions, Causey says

'It's not based on us sitting in a glass office tower saying, 'You will do this or I can't help you.' Or, 'You must do that, and now come here and now go there. People aren't al-ways able to operate like that.

"A key for us is getting the services off-site," Causey says. "We have a benefits counselor at Lutheran Social Services in the Tenderloin's Ambassador Hotel though a week. We're also at Shanti's day center on Jones Street, and we just started a half day a week at Mission Neighborhood Health Center, which is fantastic for us.'

One recent client referred by MNHC's Clinica Esperanza was ill and in a major financial crisis, but ABC was able to get him the assis-

tance he deserved.

Causey described the client as "an elderly Latino male who had os support system and had lived very much in the closet with his lover all their lives. His lover had totally supported them and had all the money. The lover died, the client has AIDS, nowhere to turn, no benefits, and no money, and didn't know what to do.

"Within a week, the counselor had his Social Security benefits in place. It was such a compelling need and so obvious." Causey said. "Being on-site like that helps."

Two new issues

Causey says that as AIDS treatments have advanced in recent years, clients are increasingly asking a question about benefits they weren't asking several years ago.

"One of the number one ques-

tions we're getting on the tele-phone right now is, 'What hap-pens if I return to work?' People

pens if I return to work? People who are living [with HIV] are liv-ing longer and are getting bored. "And they want to know what happens if they go back to work and what are the ramifications around that, so we spend a fair amount of time explaining to people the impact on what benefits they may have."

Some private and federal disability and entitlements benefits programs allow claimants to work

even part time, Causey said.

ABC is also playing a key role in educating other social service providers and clients about recent changes in federal Social Security tically affect an estimated 3,000

RESOURCES

San Francisco 94104. (415) 291-5454

AIDS Emergency Fund, 1540 Market #320, San Francisco 94102. (415) 558-6999/6990

AIDS Legal Referral Panel, 114 Sansome Street, Suite 1129,

Catholic Charities of San Francisco, 814 Mission Street, 6th Floor, San Francisco 94103. (415) 281-1200

Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, AIDS

Visual AID: Artists For AIDS Relief, 785 Market Street, Suite 720, San Francisco 94103

Financial Services, 1101 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco 94109. (415) 474-8400

San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Financial Benefits Program, 10 United Nations Plaza, San Francisco 94102. (415) 487-8000

AIDS Drug Assistance Program, 995 Potrero Ave., Ward 86, San Francisco 94110. (415) 206-3154

San Francisco residents, including many people with HIV.

"The new ruling basically throws people with substance abuse or alcohol addiction as part of their disability off the Social Security benefit rolls," Causey

Security benefit rolls," Causey says, "unless you can prove that the addiction is not primary to the disability any longer.

"For people with AIDS – particularly those who have been on [SSI] for more than a year, that probably has happened."

The ruling can impact SSI recipients with HIV because, Causey says, people with HIV are often disabled by their substance abuse before they are disabled by HIV.

before they are disabled by HIV.

"If they went on disability because of that, they are affected,"

Causey says.

Clients will be required to reap ply for benefits or request reviews of their cases during a very short window of opportunity - and if window of opportunity - and if they do not have a primary cause of disability other than substance abuse, they will be removed from the federal SSI rolls by January. "We've been working with the Coalitions on Homelessness to provide training throughout the city and to teach providers."

city and to teach providers," Causey says. "It's sending shock waves through the city."

Nine percent overhead

Causey is justifiably proud that ABC had an administrative budget that comes to just over nine per-cent of last year's \$345,000 budget.

"We're operating at better than 90 cents on the dollar for programs and services," he says. "That's probably going to go down a little, because we have to

down a little, because we have to get better at fundraising. You have to spend money to get it, so it may go up to 12 percent." Funded by a diverse group of supporters – including Bears of San Francisco, GAP Foundation, The Academy of Friends, SM-MILE (producers of the annual Folsom Street Fair). Men's Associ-Folsom Street Fair), Men's Associated Exchange, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, and Chevron – ABC sponsors a variety of fundraisers

sponsors a variety of rendered during the year.

The next ABC fundraiser will be a Monday, July 8 benefit film screening of the hit German comedy/sex farce Maybe...Maybe Not at the Embarcadero Center Cinema bocated at One Embarcadero ma, located at One Embarcadero

For more information about AIDS Benefits Counselors. located at 470 Castro Street Suite 202, call (415) 558-9845.

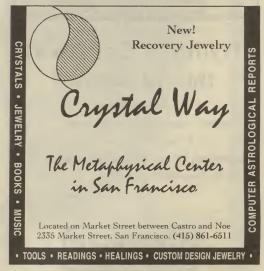
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Asian AIDS Project, Living Well to merge

by Dennis Conkin

he Living Well Project, one of San Francisco's premiere AIDS service organizations, plans to merge with the Asian AIDS Project later this year, according to Steve Lew, the project's executive director.

The seven-year-old group once known as the Gay Asian Pa-cific Alliance Community HIV Program – has an annual budget of \$1.2 million and an estimated 200 clients receiving intensive HIV case management and social services. Lew will leave the agency when it merges with the Asian

AIDS Project.

More than half of Living Well's case management clients are re-cent immigrants with Asian back-grounds, half of whom have limited English language skills. The majority are gay or bisexual men,

In addition to its six-language case management services, The Living Well project also provides outreach and education through workshops and one-on-one sesworksnops and one-on-one ses-sions to an estimated 6,000 gay and bisexual men a year. The group also conducts a Speakers Bureau and leads a local consortium for youth-oriented services

Lew says that generalized AIDS and prevention strategies focused on gay and bisexual men tend to ignore an issue central to the lives of Asian men at risk – the issue of "For a lot of our traditional cultures, the biological family is still a pretty central part of gay men's identity," Lew says, so Liv-ing Well provides outreach ser-vices to at-risk families as an

AIDS prevention strategy.

"There are a couple of things we have been excited to do over the last couple of years," Lew told the B.A.R. "One of the projects has been with PFLAG, particular-ly with building support groups for Asian Pacific Islander parents. We started by doing potlucks a couple times a years, but now it's become an organization almost like a PFLAG chapter. They pro-duced a video with us last year."

The video consists of inter-views with Asian-American families about the coming out process, as part of a larger AIDS prevention strategy, according to Lew. AIDS, but people's attitudes to-wards gay men so that's a lot of what we think will positively im-pact our efforts.

"Most of our efforts are fo-

cused on working with individuals at risk around their attitude and what impacts that," he says.

He says as AIDS funding becomes tighter, citywide AIDS pre-

vention, support, mental health, and substance abuse services need to be better integrated and attentive to what clients want in services.
"One of the things of real im-

portance to AIDS organizations is to be driven a little more by what consumers need," he says. ▼

For more information about the Living Well Project contact (415) 575-3939.

RESOURCES

AIDS Project of The East Bay, 565 15th Street, Oakland, CA 94612. (510) 834-8181

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services, Inc., 173 South Boulevard, San Mateo, CA 95123. (415) 572-9702

Filipino Task Force on AIDS, 1540 Market Street #325, San Francisco 94102. (415) 703-9880

Godfather Service Fund, 584 Castro Street #225, San Francisco 94114. (415) 565-4433

Glide/Goodlet HIV/AIDS Project, 330 Ellis Street #518, San Francisco 94102. (415) 567-2273

The Living Well Project, 30 Pearl Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco 94102. (415) 575-3939

Native American AIDS Project, 1540 Market Street, Suite 425, San Francisco 94119. (415) 522-2460

San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 10 United Nations Plaza, San Francisco 94102. (415) 864-5855 Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center, 187 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco 94102. (415) 431-7476

Prevention Point, Needle Exchange/HIV Prevention Project, P.O. Box 429018, San Francisco 94142. (415) 861-7610

Swords To Plowshares, A Veteran's Rights Organization, 995 Market Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco 94103. (415) 247-8777

Note: For more Information about services for people with HIV/AIDS, The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has prepared the HIV/AIDS, The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has prepared the SFAF 1995-96 HIV Resource Gulde – an exhaustive 192-page guide to available financial, medical and dental, social services, housing, mental health, alcohol and recovery, alternative therapy, food and nutrition, legal, political and advocacy, religious and spiritual, women's, family, and youth HIV and AIDS services. Single copies of the guide are free at the Client Services Department of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. For more Information call (415) 487-8000.

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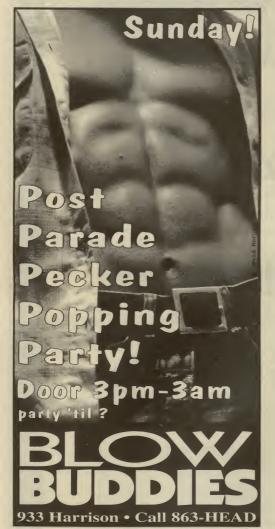
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Good care, no frills at Ground Zero

Ward 86: 'Oh, my God'

by Dennis Conkin

hen one steps out of the Building 80 elevator at San Francisco General Hospital, into the absolute and unequivocal center of the outpatient AIDS medical care universe, it's not the poignant need of Ward 86 patients – or even the palpable compassion and caring of the unit's dedicated staff – that sparks

unit's decicated staff – that sparks a gasp.

Instead, the gasp begins as one performs an awkward pirouette to make way for other people walking down the cramped hallway and becomes sharper at the sight of water-stained ceiling tile and usly and inefficient fluoresand ugly and inefficient fluores-cent lighting glaring through cheap frosted-plastic covers. And, by the time one passes two staffers answering phones from what must surely be a

broom closet, the gasp has be-come full-throated and disbelieve

"Welcome," says Mera Granberg, executive director of the non-profit San Francisco General Hospital Foundation, "to Ground Zero." ing.
"Welcome,"

In a bizarre bit of retro architecture, an odd molded protrusion juts from the hospital hall-way baseboards. It's a gurney barrier – and once kept patient-bear-ing hospital gurneys from bang-ing into corridor walls.

ing into corridor walls.

Granberg explains the impractical floor plan of the former labor and delivery ward was part of state-of-the-art communicable disease care – in 1918.

While there aren't any inpatient gurneys on Ward 86 anymore, there are patients in wheelchairs, and patients supported by canes, or tugging portable IV machines as they walk from the bathroom back to the infusion and chemotherapy room.

Partial facelift

Down the hallway, a busy patient waiting room is a clinic bright spot, replete with cheerful decorative ceiling trim – the suc-cessful charitable efforts of a local church group, inspired by a talk from SFGH AIDS Programs di-rector Dr. Paul Volberding.

Ward 86 recently received a much needed – but only partial – facelift, thanks to several local charitable civic groups and foun-

dations.

However, more work is badly needed, Granberg says.

"What we really need to have is a new building," she smiles.

"But between now and then we need to use the space better."

The clinic sees more than 100.

The clinic sees more than 100 patients a day for AIDS medical, social, mental health, and nursing care services in 13 examining rooms, according to Ward 86's J.B. Molaghan, RN, an expert AIDS nurse practitioner and administrative nurse.

Molaghan says that an estimated 35 percent of all San Fran-cisco residents with HIV eventually end up at San Francisco General – from homeless Tenderloin injection drug users to affluent Pacific Heights residents whose insurance and other healthcare

94145. (415) 487-7500



Hospital hell: Lack of funds has kept Ward 86 in remodeling

page 64

RESOURCES

San Francisco General Hospital HIV Clinic-Ward 86, 995 Potrero Ave, Ward 86 Building 80, San Francisco 94110. (415) 476-0828

City Clinic (STD Clinic), San Francisco Department of Public Health, 356 7th Street, San Francisco 94103. (415) 487-5500

District Health Center #1, 3850 17th Street, San Francisco

Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinics, Inc., HIV Early Intervention Program, 558 Clayton Street, San Francisco 94117. (415) 487-5632

Lyon-Martin Women s Health Services, 1748 Market Street, Suite 201, San Francisco 94102. (415) 565-7683

Mission Neighborhood Health Center, Clinica Esperanza, HIV Clinic, 240 Shotwell, San Francisco 94110. (415) 431-3212

Native American Health Center, HIV Medical Case Man ment, 56 Julian Ave., San Francisco 94103. (415) 621-8051

University of California San Francisco Medical Center, HIV Clinic-Ambulatory Care Center, 400 Parnassus Ave., Room A555, San Francisco 94123. (415) 476-3226

California Pacific Medical Center, California Campus, 3700 California Street, San Francisco 94118. (415) 387-8700

California Pacific Medical Center, Pacific Campus, 2333 Buchanan Street, San Francisco 94120. (415) 563-4321

Davies Medical Center, Castro at Duboce, San Francisco 94114. (415) 565-6000

Kaiser Permanente, 2425 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 94115. (415) 202-2000

St. Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco 94109. (415) 353-6000

St. Luke Hospital, 3555 Cesar Chavez Blvd., San Francisco 94100, (415) 641-6690

St. Mary s Medical Center HIV Services, 2235 Hayes Street, 5th Floor, San Francisco 94117. (415) 750-5733



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BENEFIT ADVOCATES **

Brothers who love brothers educate

by Dennis Conkin

regory Walker sits in a small Market Street suite of of-fices and talks intently about the life-saving efforts of the Brothers Network, where he

serves as program director.

"The Brothers Network is a local program of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention,"

specific and appropriate prevention and education services to African-American gay and bisexual men and transgendered people in the city and county of San Francisco."
With a ten-person staff and an

annual budget of \$300,000, the non-profit community-based AIDS service organization provides a wide array of services to

between 40 and 60 clients a week.
"In some ways black gay people are starting to call the Brothers"

Network a community center" Network a community center," Walker says. "We have several programs: we offer direct services, make transportation linkages for medical appointments for those who are impacted by HIV, provide emergency food boxes on an as-need basis, and make medical referrals, in addition to providing treatment advocacy to clients with questions about treatment op-tions" in weekly group meetings.

"Currently, there is a trend for questions to be about viral load." Walker says, "so we provide information abut what viral load tests are and what the results mean, so our clients can have a better sense of what's happening with their health."

health."

A big part of the group's direct service assistance is in providing emotional support to clients through groups, workshops, and occasional one-to-one sessions.

"Having HIV is obviously an overwhelming experience," Walker says. "Many people just need support and time to talk about what that feels like on a daily basis."

The Brothers Network offers ten weekly support groups in all,

ten weekly support groups in all, including one recently re-instituted group for HIV-negative men.
Two important aspects of the group's prevention program are

those efforts that target gay and bisexual African-American youth

page 64



Gregory Walker: "Black gay people are starting to call the Brothers Network a community center." $\,$

RESOURCES

AIDS Treatment News, P.O. Box 411256, San Francisco 94141. 1-800-TREAT1-2

Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS (BETA), San Francisco AIDS Foundation, P.O. Box 426182, San Francisco 94141. 1-800-959-1059

Institute for Community Health Outreach, Community Health Outreach Worker Training, 507 Divisadero Street, San Francisco 94115. (415) 922-6135

Mobilization Against AIDS, 584B Castro Street, San Francisco 94114. (415) 863-4676

Project Inform, 1965 Market Street #220, San Francisco 94102. (415) 558-8669

STOP AIDS Project, 210 Sanchez Street, San Francisco 94114. (415) 621-7177

Women's AIDS Network (WAN), 584 Castro Street, Suite 321, San Francisco 94114. (415) 621-4160

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SFGH

◄ page **60**

have been exhausted.

The antiquated facility had been unused for years in a kind of hospital version of mothballs

hospital version of mothballs when the epidemic exploded.

"It's way too small," Molaghan says." This building wasn't actually meant to be an outpatient AIDS clinic, but it was the only thing available back when we opened.

"At one point, one side of the hallway was really unexplored. There was this plastic wrap that was hanging down when you turned off the elevator," he recalls. With close-cropped hair and the brightest of blue eyes, Molaghan's youthful appearance, ca-

laghan's youthful appearance, ca-sual dress, and charming, gener-ous demeanor belie his historic

ous demeanor belie his historic role in the epidemic. If a proposed Castro Street Walk of Stars honoring lesbian and gay community heroes and heroines ever comes to pass, Mo-laghan's star will have an extra luster – both for his efforts and luster – both for his etforts and accomplishments in caring for countless thousands of patients with HIV/AIDS during the epidemic, and for his tireless and steadfast personal witness. Five months after Ward 86 opened in 1983, Molaghan was on the scene. He's been there ever since.

He's been there ever since.
"We need money," he says bluntly. "Hundreds of thousands of dollars. We've not been on the fundraising front, and it's kind of hard for us to get out there and say, 'Rah! Rah!' "We've been too busy taking

care of patients."

Assistance from the Gap, funds
provided by the Academy of



Ward 86's J.B. Molaghan: "You know, it just grew faster than we ever thought it would."

Friends, the extraordinary efforts of Christmas in April, and other non-profit groups have helped an intolerable clinic situation be-

come marginally more tolerable.
"It just became such an unr lust became such an un-pleasant place for people to get their medical care that we had to do something," Molaghan says. "A lot of the recent changes are making the space more function-

al. For instance, wheelchairs can at rot instance, wheethaars can get into the bathroom now. The front desk area was actually moved back," he says. "Because of that, people are tripping over each other less when they get off the el-

But he says, there's much more to be done. "We'd like to finish all the exam rooms. What we used to do was salvage stuff from the

basement. We'd walk over to the main hospital and see an old desk or old file cabinet and say, 'We could use that.' So a lot of our stuff was put together from over the years through hospital garage

Molaghan tells of a recurring experience of Ward 86 caregivers, working in an outpatient clinic renowned as the best of its kind in the nation.

"We're the poor people's hospital, but also this major AIDS care and research center, and a lot of times when people come from other countries and we them the clinic, they go, 'Oh, my

Except, strangely, visitors and providers from New York, he chuckles; they're apparently familiar with similar conditions.

The reason for Ward 86's plight is simple, Molaghan says.

"It is of your faster than we were

"It just grew faster than we ever thought it would, I think, in terms of the number of patients coming here. There hasn't been an effort until recently to help improve the space and to get some money and to make the renovations."

A project to create a new treat-ment room for patients was com-pleted about five years ago, Mo-laghan remembers.

"That was a big deal. A nice

linoleum floor, newer equip-ment, and we got a blanket warmer for patients. These little things are what makes it a place that people don't mind coming

to, ne says.

But the poor water pressure in the sinks outside the exam rooms isn't just a little thing. Neither is removing an unused sink wasting critical space in a lab room, to give technicians more room. Nor is a new X-ray box in a conference

room where Ward 86 caregivers

meet, consult, and make treat-ment decisions about patients.
"And the lighting is just terri-ble in some places, especially if you're sick," Molaghan says. "If you don't feel well and you have this kind of fluorescent lighting, it doesn't make for a therapeutic en-vironment."

Continued design and struc-tural changes in the ward are es-sential to good patient care, Mo-laghan says. "We have tried to remake the environment so it pays attention to certain sub-populations that have not traditionally had HIV-friendly treatment ser-

vices in years past.

And, as the financial pressures to provide outpatient rather than inpatient care affects hospitals around the country, Ward 86 caregivers routinely serve more acutely ill patients than they did only a short time ago.

"We're seeing a lot of sick patients in the output links on the country links on the cou

tients in the outpatient clinics on a daily basis that five years ago would have been in the hospital. The volume and acuity made it so the physical space was getting too

run down.
"So if we want to remain state

"So if we want to remain state of the art, we have to have equipment that works well," he says.

A fundraising campaign to benefit Ward 86 has begun through the efforts of the nonprofit San Francisco General Hos-pital Foundation. Contributions for Ward 86 to the Foundation should be earmarked for "AIDS Programs." ▼

For more information about the Foundation contact Granberg at (415) 206-4478 or write P.O. Box 410836, SF CA 94141-0836

Brothers

◄ page **62**

under the age of 25, and its case management services for HIV-positive people with issues that place them at risk for re-infection. The agency will kick off a new media safe sex educational cam-

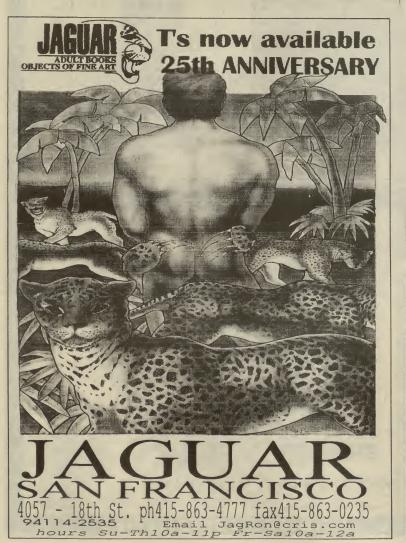
paign in mid-July called "Brothers Who Love Brothers Love Them Safely." It is the culmination of an eight-month effort that includes bus placards as well as palm cards handed out to youth in cafes and restaurants, bars, and street settings. Walker says the Brothers Net-

work's prevention education efforts focus on community interventions – "which try to establish ventions – which try to establish using condoms as being the norm in our communities" – plus one-to-one counseling and intervention efforts. The work is funded through The Kommunities of

through The kommunities of Kolor United Against AIDS and the Chances For Youth coalition. The Brothers Network also holds a weekly evening discussion group as part of its community-building efforts where Walker says "people can just come and talk about issues. Next week, it's the block church and early

about issues. Next week, it's the black church and gays. "Three weeks ago we had a conversation about black couples, because there are black-on-black [gay male] couples and people don't often see them. We had seven African-American couples, some together for three months, some for seven years." ▼

For more information about The Brothers Network, located at 973 Market, call (415) 356-







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Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic

Hamilton Family Center

Larkin Street Youth Center \$6,616

PAWS \$3,495

Project Open Hand \$28,654

San Francisco AIDS Foundation \$14,102

San Francisco S.P.C.A. \$6,423

Shanti Project \$9,486

Visiting Nurses & Hospice of San Francisco \$11,469

Women's Cancer Resource Center \$4.613

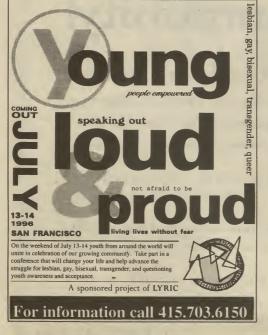
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Tea and feedback

Dodie Bellamy's writing workshop

by Erin Blackwell

rriving at the SoMa address, I ring the buzzer and wait on a floodlighted street full of parked cars, dark buildings and vacant lots. The sound of loafers tripping down two flights of stairs signals the descent of writer Kevin Killian, who smiles a cheerful hello as he pushes open the black metal gate. "It was open," he says sweetly. Several times during Dodie Bellamy's weekly writing workshop I repeat my mistake, which takes on the aspect of a ritual.

I follow Kevin up the stairs and into the living room of the one-bedroom apartment shared by the two writers. Lined with books, most of them signed by the authors, and filled with original art work, the room is cutting-edge cozy. A sofa and chairs encircle a table laden with popcorn, cookies and pots of peppermint tea. Two well-fed cats, Blanche and Stanley, roam around in search of a friendly lap and fallen kernels.

One by one, writers arrive and exchange personal news and announcements of upcoming literary events. Then we get down to business. Each of us in turn hands out photocopies of our latest endeavor, reads it aloud, and listens to what the others have to say. Discussion can be lively. Having sometimes the first and usually the last word, Bellamy exudes a



Author Dodie Bellamy

soft-spoken, bemused and almost mystically discreet authority. In her presence, no egos will collide. After an hour and a half, we

After an hour and a half, we break. Kevin exits to the balcony for a smoke, while Dodie goes into the kitchen to brew another pot of tea. The rest of us gravitate to one pole or the other, or stay where we are — chatting, scanning the bookshelves and generally luxuriating in this ambiance of serious writerliness with all the comforts of home.

New narrative

Married for ten years this July, Kevin and Dodie first met in the early '80s in a writing workshop given by Robert Glück, under the auspices of Small Press Traffic. It was there, she says, that she was "exposed to the concept of experimental fiction." Glück was a practitioner of the experimental "new narrative," which subverted traditional narrative — which was considered corrupt — in order to tell the stories of the traditionally marginalized.

Glück also encouraged Bellamy to write about sex. "And in those days — not like today — a female needed encouragement," she says wryly, "At a certain point," she adds, "Dennis Cooper was really important to my writing. His books demonstrated how to write effective sex scenes. It's not just a series of acts. There's a pervasive eroticism to his work. Sex is a state of being."

From within her network of gay male writers, Bellamy learned to express what she calls her "adamantly female perspective." The impact of feminist writing on her work was to "make me believe in my experience as a woman." Key to her development was Kathleen Fraser, a promoter of experimental women's poetry from whom she took a poetry workshop at State.

Working-class background

Four years ago, Bellamy inaugurated a workshop of her own.
"My therapist told me to do it," she says and laughs. "She said it would be good for my self-image." Created in her own image, Bellamy's workshop is a harmonious synthesis of tendencies often falsely categorized as mutually exclusive—gay/straight, experimental/comprehensible and visual/verbal.

verbal.

As a woman happily married to a gay man, Bellamy not only straddles but dissolves the gaylstraight divide. "I don't know if I believe in those labels," she says, vaguely flirting with political incorrectness. "Stonewall did a lot of harm. In San Francisco, in the '50s and '60s, things were more fluid"

As an experimental writer committed to narrative, Bellamy eschews fashionable hermeticism by lacing formal innovation with story line. "It's my tip of the hat to my working class background. I want to be accessible. I try to keep it fun and campy. I edit myself to reduce the pretension." With a tinge of regret she acknowledges,

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RESOURCES

GAWK Gay Area Writers Kollective: A social group for people involved in the arts is looking for musicians, published writers and video editors for various projects. For information, send a SASE to Jon Sugar at GAWK at 901 Stanyan St. #14, San Francisco, CA 94117.

Harvey Milk Institute sponsors writing classes each semester. Three writing courses will be offered this semester, which begins at the end of September (catalog is available September 1). Most classes are free, however some workshops are \$15 per unit. For information, call 552-7200.

Ongoing poetry workshop for HIV positive gay men. Thurs., 3-5 p.m. For information about locations, call Darrell at 221-8779.

Pen Center USA West offers grants to writers with HIV/AIDS. Grants of up to \$1,000 are available to writers residing in the western and midwestern U.S. To be eligible, applicants must be HIV positive and have been actively involved in creating literary work within the past three years. Applications are available from PEN Center USA West, 672 S. LaFayette Park Place, #41 Los Angeles, CA 90057. For more information, call 213-365-8500.

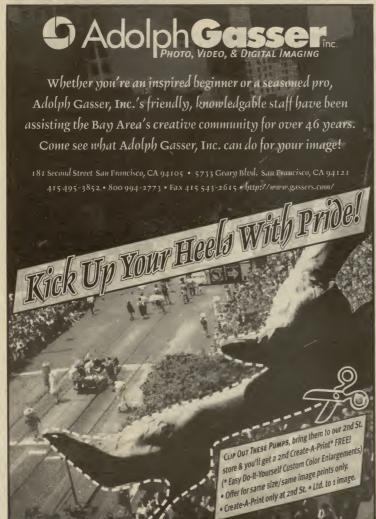
Self-Empowerment Environment (SEE): Group meets weekly, new members are welcome. Group writes, reads and publishes stories of out growth. Different concept explored each week. For information, call 826-9001.

Shanti Writing Project (SWP) explores all aspects of writing—including poetry, fiction, playwriting, and creative non-fiction—and welcomes writers of all skill levels, from beginners to advanced. Groups meet on Tuesday mornings at the Shanti offices, 1546 Market St. For information, call 777-CARE.

Small Press Traffic: Creative writing workshops, reading series and literature of all kinds. Call 285-8394 for information. Located at 3599 24th St.

Story Writing Class for Persons with HIV/AIDS. Tuesday, 1 p.m. The Center for AIDS Services, 5720 Shattuck Avenue. Call at (510) 655-3435.

Te Toca La Tinta. Creative writing group in SPanish for queer Latinos. Sponsored by Proyecto Contra Sida Por Vida. 864-7278.





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They're young, they're queer, they've got a script

by Wendell Ricketts

ramaDivas, the five-yearold writing workshop and
theater group for gay, lesbian, and "questioning" youth,
may be one of San Francisco's
best-kept artistic secrets. Founded in 1991 by Cherrie Moraga —
the playwright and community
organizer who is surely the comadre of Latino performing arts
— DramaDivas has become a
kind of home-away-from-home
for queer kids who want a place to
hang out, to write about their experiences and, of course, to get up
on stage in front of God and
everyone and talk about being
young, colored, and queer.

young, colored, and queer.

At DramaDivas, in other words, coming out meets community meets sometimes bitter commentary on what the Divas — many of whom are working-class Latino kids — see as the mainstream "gay community." Or put it this way: It ain't your basic drama club.

At a recent rehearsal at DramaDivas' studio in the Mission — a space the company shares with their parent organization. Braval

At a recent rehearsal at DramaDivas' studio in the Mission — a space the company shares with their parent organization, Brava! For Women in the Arts — seven kids are working on skits and monologues for an upcoming show. Vic, a handsome baby dyke with Ethan Hawke hair and a twangy accent straight out of Appalachia, is rehearsing "Eatin' Words," an autobiographical piece



Not your basic drama club: DramaDivas provides gay kids of color with an important creative outlet.

she wrote about a San Francisco lesbo-punk who makes a trek home to Tennessee for a family visit.

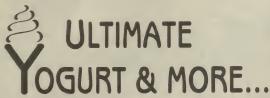
to Tennessee for a family visit.
Vic is playing J.R., the small town's resident overall-wearing, wrecker-driving, stone butch, "no-body knows I'm a lesbian" lesbian. Vic swaggers around the stage, trying J.R. on for size. She stops, hooks her thumbs into her belt loops, and pretends to grind a cigarette out under her heel. "What d'you think," she says to no one in particular. "Is this how a butch walks?"

But her question gets a little lost in the commotion on the other side of the room, where Lydia, playing the frowzy waitress at the truckstop diner where the action takes place, is trying on a succession of ratty wigs. She finds one she likes and immediately sticks a pencil into the nest of hair. "I need an apron," she proclaims. "And I guess I should wear three pairs of socks that are all different colors, huh?"

Different colors, of course, are what it's all about. Yvette Gomez, a former workshop participant and now, at 23, DramaDivas' Outreach Coordinator, says, "The original outreach was to queer kids of color, and the first few workshops, partly because of (Cherrie Moraga's presence), were young Latina lesbians. That's

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RESOURCES

The following is a guide to GLBT performing arts groups in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond.

Bay Area Raw Rahs: collegiate-style cheerleading/precision dance groups open to men and women who are interested in mastering and performing dance routines, human pyramids, partner lifts & gymnastic stunts. Info: Steve: (510) 228-7497.

Jon Sims Center for Performing Arts. A multi-disciplinary performance, arts, rehearsal, studio complex rooted in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. 1519 Mission Street. Call 554-0402. Contact their website at: http://userwww.sfsu.edu/—clayton/JSC.html

Golden Gate Men's Chorus, 116 Eureka St., San Francisco, CA 94114. 626-2883.

Luna Sea Women's Performance Project. 2940 16th St. #216C, San Francisco, CA 94103. 863-2989

Napa Valley Women's Chorus (and Northern California Women's Chorus). P.O. Box 2001 Yountville, CA 94599. (707)-944-2420.

New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Avenue. Multicultural and queer theatre. Conservatory for youth, art gallery, rentals, workshops, casting, special events. 861-8972.

New Chamber Orchestra performs at various venues throughout the Bay Area. P.O. Box 2578 Mill Valley, CA 94942-2578. 381-6226. Gay-friendly.

San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus. 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. 861-7067.

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus c/o Golden Gate Performing Arts. Box 421491 San Francisco, CA 94142-1491. 863-4472.

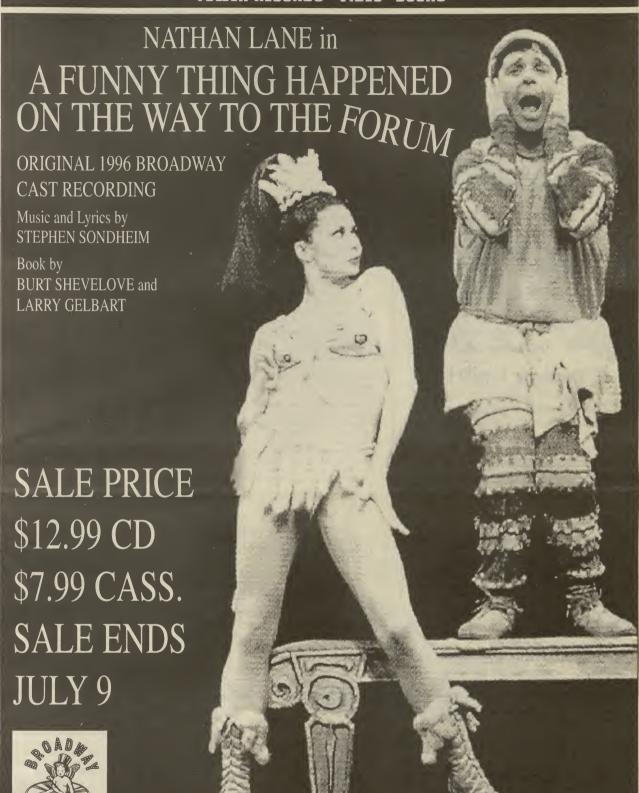
The Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers. P.O. Box 14521 San Francisco, CA 94114. 333-2755. email address: bs00@net-com.com

San Francisco Concerto Orchestra, Seth Montfort Artistic Director. Showcases talents of musicians trained for solo careers, or currently employed by local orchestras. Members are afforded the opportunity to be featured in performances as soloist, composer or conductor. Very gay-friendly. 92 A Cameo Way, San Francisco, CA 94131. 731-3355.

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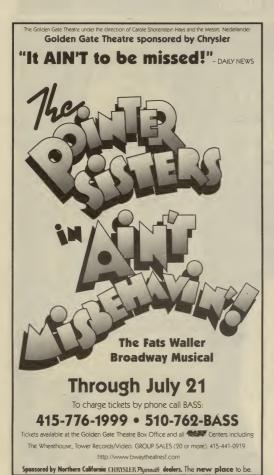
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Lesbian bowlers have fun to spare

'A League of Our Own' fills East Bay need

by Cynthia Laird

very Sunday evening, about 28 lesbians meet in the East
Bay to let the pins fall
where they may, in a manner of
speaking. It's "A League of Our
Own" (ALOO), and the women who comprise the league say it's a great way to socialize as well as enjoy bowling.

The women are able to enjoy the sport in a supportive, safe en-vironment, says Marilyn Malone, president of ALOO – and they're also able to "girl watch."

As a brochure for ALOO states, the organization was formed "to provide lesbians with bowling interest an inclusive league in which to have fun and meet other lesbians.

And bowlers don't just come to Albany Bowl from the East Bay. Malone pointed out women come from San Francisco and San Anselmo, in addition to several

East Bay cities.
Malone says ALOO was started just over four years ago by Debra Slone, who was interested in getting lesbian bowlers together.

"She's an impressive woman,"
Oakland resident and ALOO
member Diane Winkler says of
Slone. "In the middle of blue collar Albany there's an oasis of les-

4

bians. We kind of create a consciousness, a statement, in a place where I didn't think a statement could be made."

Slone, who now serves as league secretary, is modest about her role in starting ALOO. She downplays the fact that she was instrumental in the league's formation, and says someone else could have started it and it would have been just as satisfying.

"These are really, really good people," Slone, an Oakland resident, says of the women in the league.

ALOO is a very diverse group of women, and consists of bowlers who have a range of skill levels. The group bowls year round, and each season is 12 weeks long. New teams of three to four women each are selected at random by Aleach are selected at random by Al-bany Bowl for each season, so the women have a chance to bowl with others in the league. Selec-tion is generally based on the women's averages in an effort to keep teams even, Malone says. "Albany Bowl has been good to us" Peed says.

us," Reed says.

Malone agreed, saying she's happy the bowling alley has ac-

"We're loud, rowdy, crazy,"
Malone says, laughing. "We sing,
chant, and dance in the aisles."

There is also no smoking at Albany Bowl, which dispels the be-lief of bowling alleys being smoke-filled rooms, notes ALOO member Judy Winn, of Oakland.

'Gutter ball queen'

ALOO used to meet on Sun-day mornings, but membership increased and the women had their first real league in the spring of 1993, according to Mikie Reed,

vice president of the organization.

The women now meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. every Sunday, and bowl three games a night.

On a recent Sunday evening,

just after she's gotten a strike, Richmond resident and ALOO member A.B. Priceman is obviously happy as she walks away from the lane.

"When I first started I was a gutter ball queen," Priceman says. "You do get better if you keep at it. "I've been in the league three years. I started coming and I loved

it so much I've been coming con-tinuously ever since. It's fun, they mix up the teams, and we have all

The women do enjoy selecting team names such as "Slippery When Wet," "Lesberados," "4 Play," "The 69ers," and "Naughty Play," "The 69ers," "The 69ers But Nice!

Jennifer Sheets, of San Anselmo, has also been with ALOO for about three years. She currently serves as league treasurer.

serves as league treasurer.

"I was one of the first when they were just practicing, so I kind of evolved with it," Sheets says. "It's fun, it's a great group of women, and everyone's here just to have fun. I enjoy it."

Malone says the group has a banquet at the end of the year. Additionally, the last week of each season is known as "sweeper week," when the women have a chance to win cash prizes and tro-drance to win cash prizes and tro-

chance to win cash prizes and tro-phies.

For more information about ALOO, call (510) 653-4135.
The group meets Sundays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Albany Bowl, located at 540 San Pablo Avenue in Albany.

DramaDivas

▼ page 68

changed, but how the kids in the

workshops look still reflects how the youth of San Francisco looks." Gomez adds, "Basically, we get three categories of kids here: Those who are completely out; those who are just coming out and need a place to be with other gays and lesbians; and straight kids who can hang." The latter, she says, come into Dra-maDivas mostly through its 17-andunder work-training program.
"Some come because it's a job. Some come because it's theater," Gomez says. But, she continues, "People tend to weed themselves out. My brother — who is straight as can be
— has been in DramaDivas since he
was 11. I mean, family is family; and family means that you're down for each other. People who can't hang because it's so queer or so brown get used to it or they move on. It's al-ways worked out."

Chaos has never stopped DramaDivas from producing an im-pressive resume: a show for each of the last six seasons; volumes of writing that await a publisher; a 'zine — Funny That Way — full of poetry, essays, and fiction from workshops; a video; and, perhaps workshops, a video; and, perhaps most important, a sense among the Divas that "gay culture" does include them, even if they sometimes have to fight for a place at the table. But even if that's true, no one's getting bogged down in the struggle. Whether it's embracing a white-trash history ("7-11 culture is my heritage," writes Zane, "and I relate a lot to fast food,") or letting off steam about "passing" Chioff steam about "passing" Chicanos who snag Anglo boyfriends and move to "Pacific Whites," the Divas are proving that the most important thing about having a voice is raising it.

Contact DramaDivas at (415) 641-7684.



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SF has lesbians with avengeance

by Cynthia Laird

he San Francisco Lesbian Avengers have been on the local political scene for about three years now, and although they have recently decreased in number, their remaincreased in number, their remaining members are gearing up to participate in demonstration events at the forthcoming Republican National Convention.

Not that they're partisan: earlier this month, two members of the group were among the gay protesters near Senator Dianne

Feinstein's home June 9, as President Clinton was attending a

\$50,000-per-person fundraiser.
Such actions are in keeping with the mission of the Avengers, described by longtime member Jamie Bostick as a "direct action" group of lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered women focused on issues vital to our survival and visibility.

There are Lesbian Avenger There are Lesbian Avenger groups nationwide, Bostick said in an interview with the B.A.R., and since all are pretty much independent of each other, the San Francisco group differs from the rest – particularly the New York chapter, which focuses exclusively on leshian issues on lesbian issues.

"We're a little more diverse," Bostick says. "We work with other issues, such as the death penalty

and affirmative action."

The history of the group is colorful, and full of different types of

actions to bring attention to a va-

riety of causes and issues.

The first Avenger action here took place in August 1993, when members protested against Rev-erend Eugene Lumpkin. At the time, Lumpkin was a Human Rights Commissioner and had Rights Commissioner and had publicly made homophobic com-ments. Lumpkin, who continued to make anti-gay statements, was eventually fired from the com-mission by then-Mayor Frank Jordan after Lumpkin made state-ments supporting the biblical practice of stoning homosexuals to death

to death.

In February 1995, five
Avengers released 1,000 crickets in the administrative offices of San Rafael-based Exodus International. Exodus is known as an ex-gay ministry, although officials there describe themselves as a referral agency for people who wish to change from homosexuality to heterosexuality.

heterosexuality.

The 1,000 crickets was the Avengers' play on the biblical story of God sending in a plague of locusts to punish Pharaoh and the people of Egypt for keeping the Israelites captive. The story is found on the Old Testament Book of Evodus Policie was alled out. of Exodus. Police were called and the Avengers left peacefully after about 20 minutes. No charges were filed. Exodus staff members vacuumed up the crickets.

The action was widely publicized, and got the Avengers noticed as a direct action group. Bo-stick said that was the pointdoing a "media friendly" event to draw attention to the group. Also in early 1995, after San

Francisco police raided a Visual AIDS New Year's Eve party, the Avengers set up a mannequin dressed in a police uniform in City Hall to protest the history of alleged police brutality against gays, people of color, and the poor. For Bostick, it was her most important involvement with the Avengers.

The whole issue of police bru-tality may have cost the Avengers some of their members. Bostick says several of the women "needed a break" from the direct action group, while others joined the Ac-tion for Police Accountability group formed in the aftermath of the New Year's Eve raid. As a result, the Avengers are

now actively looking for new members. Last year, when some women were in the area for the summer, the Avengers averaged between 20-30 women at their weekly Monday evening meetings. Bostick and others in the group would like to see that happen again this summer. She and others in the group have had to spend most of their time raising funds to cover expenses like their planned participation in events at

planned participation in events at the GOP convention. Planned events include a march and rally August 12, an AIDS march and demonstration on August 13, and a "Voices for Justice" march and rally on Au-gust 15. The Avengers hope to participate in several of the events with members of the San Diego

Lesbian Avengers, whom they have contacted.

Bostick told the B.A.R. she's

begun to go to other women-ori-ented groups, such as Asian Pacific Sisters, to see if they have mem-bers who might like to become politically involved by joining the Lesbian Ávengers.

"We'd love for new people to come. We feel we're doing good work," comments Avenger Amy Little. ▼

For more information, or to attend a meeting, call their hotline at (415) 522-2973.

RESOURCES

Bay Area Career Women (415) 495-5393 or write 55 New Montgomery Street #606, San Francisco, CA 94105 Berkeley Women in Black (510) 845-1143 BRAVA! For Women in the Arts (415) 641-7657

ELLAS (Latina lesbians) (415) 985-7777

Lesbian Avengers (415) 267-6195 or write 114 Lyon Street #1, San Francisco, CA 94117.

Lesbian & Bisexual Rights Task Force of NOW (415) 861-8880

Lesbians of Color (LOC) (415) 621-0674

Lesbian Uprising! (415) 441-6238 or write P. O. Box 4233555, San Francisco, CA 94142

Lesbian Visibility Task Force of GLAAD/SFBA (415) 861-4588 Lesbian Visual Artists (415) 788-6118 or write 870 Market Street #618 San Francisco, CA 94102 National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) (415) 392-6257 or

write 870 Market Street, Suite 570, San Francisco, CA 94102 Sacramento Area Career Women's Network (916) 451-8034

SF Network for Battered Lesbians & Bisexual Women (415) 281-0276

Talking Feminism (415) 664-3240

US PROStitutes Collective (US PROS) (415) 626-4114 Wages Due Lesbians (415) 626-4114

Women's Action Coalition, 3160 Mission Street, #200, San Francisco. (415) 255-6352

Women Against Imperialism (415) 995-4735 or write 3543 18th Street #14, San Francisco, CA 94110 Women's Business Network (510) 482-8583

Women's Employment Resources Network (510) 652-5484 or write 3362 Adeline Street, Berkeley, CA 94703

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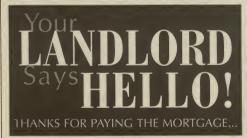
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St. Paul's Episcopal Church 114 Montecito, Oakland ❖ 510-834-4314 The Rev. Jack Eastwood, Pastor

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Trinity United Methodist Church of Berkeley 2362 Bancroft Way at Dana * 510-548-4716

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Congregational Church of Belmont 751 Alameda de las Pulgas 💠 593-4547 The Rev. Wendy Taylor, Pastor ♦ Sunday Worship - 10:30 am

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2124 Brewster Ave. at Lowell. * 368-0188 12 blocks West of El Camino Real- Redwood City ♦ Sunday Worship - 5:00 p.m.

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Bethany United Methodist Church 1268 Sanchez at Clipper � 647-8393 The Rev. Karen P. Oliveto, Pastor ♦ Summer Worship - 10:00 am

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 ♦ Wednesday Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

Come celebrate Pride Sunday with us by joining us for

church at 10:00 am, marching with us in the Pride Parade, or visiting our booth at the end of the Parade.

First Congregational Church

Post & Mason Streets * 392-7461 The Rev. Jim Lawer, Pastor

♦ Worship 9:00 & 11:00 am

Marchers are especially encouraged to attend the 9:00 am service so we can get to the parade early. But there will be time to go after the 11:00 am services as well.

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St. John's United Church of Christ

501 Laguna Honda Blvd at Woodside * 731-9333 The Rev. Roger Ridgway, Pastor; ♦ Sunday Worship - 10:00 am

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1329 Seventh Ave. Btwn. Irving & Judah * 664-2543 The Revs. Jeffrey Gains & Kimberly Murman, Co-Pastors

♦ Worship - 10:30 am

Inclusive Community Celebrating Pride Together Everyone is Welcome!

This advertisement is produced by United in Spirit a consortium of churches celebrating inclusive ministries. For more information contact coordinator: The Rev. Roger Ridgway 501 Laguna Honda Blvd San Francisco 94127 731-9333.

ACT UP helps dykes with breast cancer

by Cynthia Laird

lthough small in number for now, members of ACT UP/Golden Gate's Breast Cancer Committee hope to get more lesbians involved soon, as they work to make lesbians aware of the disease

"More dykes are aware of HIV

risk than breast cancer. But they're way more likely to get breast cancer," laments group member Virg Parks.

"We [lesbians] are at an increased risk, especially here [in the Bay Area]," Parks says. "I'd like to do a more aggressive campaign around lesbians and breast cancer."

According to Parks, the committee within the AIDS direct action group, "started out in an ad-

tion group "started out in an ad-

visory capacity to breast cancer

activists.

"We know there's power behind our [ACT UP] name."

When "women needed compassionate use for products," she says, the group demonstrated against drug companies such as Genentech in the "more aggressive, ACT UP style."

One of the women who helped move Genentech to its current, more compassionate, stand was

more compassionate, stand was Gracia Buffleben. She died of breast cancer last April, after bat-tling the disease for nine years. Now her daughter is continuing her fight.
Christine Buffleben was in

Washington, DC last week with fellow ACT UP/Golden Gate member Jeff Getty, calling for an end to diseases like breast cancer, AIDS, and others, not an end to animal research.

animal research.
Parks also said the Breast Cancer Committee is working to get more patient feedback to researchers. For now, she says, "There's no opportunity for input from the patient perspective."

Risks and recommendations

Statistics on breast cancer are alarming. According to figures from the American Cancer Society, some 184,300 new invasive cases of the disease in women are

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RESOURCES

ACT UP/Golden Gate Breast Cancer Committee (415) 252-9200

African-American Women with Cancer (510) 533-6923 or (510) 548-9272

Asian Women's Shelter (415) 751-0880

Battered Lesbians (WOMAN, Inc.) (415) 864-4722
Battered Lesbian Outreach (Sonoma YWCA) (707) 546-1234

Battered Leshian Support Group (Marin) (415) 457-2464

Battered Women's Alternatives (510) 676-2845 Battered Women's Services of San Mateo (415) 342-0850 Berkeley Health Clinic (510) 548-2570 2339 Durant Avenue

at Dana, Berkeley
Breast Cancer & Spirituality Support Group (415) 563-4321,
ext. 4705 Cal. Pacific Medical Center's Breast Health Center
California Prostitutes Education Project (510) 874-7850 Catalyst Women's Advocates (Butte & Glenn counties) crisis line (916) 895-8476 or (800) 895-8476. Business office

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HIV/AIDS Support Group for Latinas San Francisco AIDS
Foundation (415) 487-8004 25 Van Ness, 3rd Floor
San Francisco

HIV/AIDS Support Group for Women San Francisco AIDS Foundation, (415) 487-8004 10 United Nations Plaza,

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HIV/AIDS Women's Support Group AIDS Project of the East Bay (510) 834-8181 565 16th Street, Oakland

Leshian Clinic of Berkeley Women's Health Collective (510)

Lesbian Counseling Group (415) 692-0555 1870 El Camino

Lesbians with Cancer Support Group (510) 482-0635

Lesbian Midlife Support Group (415) 252-9073 Lyon-Martin Women's Health Clinic (415) 565-7667 1748 Market Street, Suite 201, San Francisco Menopause Group for Lesbians (415) 664-6842

Ongoing Therapy Group for Lesbians (415) 626-7000, ext. 271

Peninsula Battered Lesbians & Bisexual Women

Personal Support Group for Lesbians (415) 837-0157 SF Network for Battered Lesbians & Bisexual Women (415) 281-0276

San Francisco Women Against Rape (415) 647-RAPE 3543 18th Street, San Francisco 94110 Services for Battered Women (415) 552-2943

Sharing Our Unity & Love (SOUL) (510) 601-9066 Spinal Cord Injured Lesbians (408) 426-7062 Substance Abuse Prevention Program (415) 565-7682

UCSF/Mt. Zion Center Breast Cancer Support Group

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Women's Cancer Resource Center (510) 548-WCRC
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Women's Choice Clinic (707) 537-1171 4415 Sonoma Highway

Women's Needs Center (415) 487-5607 1825 Haight Street, San Francisco 94117

Women's Night Out Group Tri-City Health Center, Fremont (510) 713-6664

Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases (WORLD) (510) 658-6939
Women's Therapy Center (510) 524-8228
You Are Not Alone (510) 548-WCRC, 3023 Shattuck Avenue,

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We employ nine professional, in-house travel counselors (gay, lesbian, and straight), all of whom are trained and experienced in all types of travel arrangements — we do not utilize "outside sales" agents. This means that the agent you choose to work with (or a highly qualified "back-up") will always be available to serve you during our normal business hours. It also means that there is hardly a destination, cruise, tour or package that somebody in our office does not have personal experience with. And this direct knowledge, combined with feedback from our many clients, gives us the kind of travel "savvy" you just can't find anywhere else.

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nut Creek. (510) 939-7711 Women's Coming Out Group, Pacific Center for Human Growth, 2712 Telegraph Avenue at Derby in Berkeley.

(510) 548-8283 Women's Coming Out Group, Pacific Center, 1250 Pine Street, Walnut Creek. (510) 939-7711

Young Tongues Women's Rap Group, Lyric House, 123 Collingwood Street, San Francisco. (415) 703-6150

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ter for Human Growth, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. (510) 548-8283

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(707) 944-8081 Oakland Lesbians (510) 655-8792

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Pervert Scouts (415) 285-7985 Piedmont Avenue Area Social

Group (510) 547-6312 Sonoma County Women of Color (707) 824-1603

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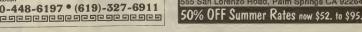


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Digital Queers

◄ page **52**

record has included work with the NGLTF, PFLAG, GLAAD, Lamb-da Legal Defense, Frameline and dozens of smaller non-profits all over the country. In that time, they have raised more than \$500,000 to help others buy computers and have donated the same amount in hours offering technical expertise. Their membership
— most are employees of high tech corporations — has grown to more than 1000, and DQ chapters have now sprung up in At-lanta, Boston, Seattle, Los Ange-les, Tampa, San Diego and Syd-

ies, Iampa, San Diego and Sydney, Australia.

To reach the thousands of welleducated, successful gays and lesbians working in the computer industry, Rielly and Wickre kicked off DQ by hosting a party at the annual MacWorld conference in San Francisco in 1993. The party draw a hune crowd and searched. drew a huge crowd and created a major noise within the computer industry: queer employees were suddenly "out," and their numbers made CEOs throughout the industry take notice. The parties, now an anticipated yearly event, have grown in size and stature to the point that they now receive corporate sponsorship from both Apple and Microsoft.

"DQ members who work at the best and the statement of th

technology companies value this

organization because it helps put together their personal and profes-sional lives," Wickre told the B.A.R. in a recent interview at DQ's Mis-sion Street offices. "They might be very successful professionally and totally out at work, but they don't often have the opportunity to help the kind of organizations we help. DQ is also a way for queer employees to find each other."

Starting a homo wave

Always looking forward to new technologies, DQ members are strong online proponents who see the Web as an opportunity to produce a wave of queer activism by arming sexual minorities with communications tools, whether they be in New York City or some tiny town in the Midwest. "We are trying to get people to go online, come out online and to become online activists," said Scott Walton, who has recently come aboard as Executive Director.

Wickre, an enthusiastic fan of the Web, sees it as a valuable tool for the queer movement. She cites

for the queer movement. She cites the Human Rights Campaign's new Web page as a prime example.

"Their Website is very interesting. They have an action area where you can enter your zip code and up pops your Congressional delegation's name, phone numbers, fax numbers and e-mail adbers, fax numbers and e-mail addresses. Then they provide a canned letter on the screen that supports something they're working on. You can simply add your name and send it in or send your

own message."

Digital Queers is currently Digital Queers is currently working with the Horizon Foundation on a "virtual community center," a computer network that will provide linkages for gay and lesbian non-profits throughout the Bay Area. Walton sees this pilot program as one way the

pliot program as one way the queer community can keep a step ahead of its political enemies.

"Part of what will keep DQ important," says Wickre, "is that as the industry makes advances, there will need to be groups such as this to help move the community along. Our concern is that it's offer the roun profit community. often the non-profit community
that has to lag at the tail end of
technology. Our work helps nonprofits who themselves are helping thousands of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. It has a ripple effect." ▼

Writing

◄ page **66**

"The snob appeal goes down."
Illustrating Bellamy's appeal across artistic disciplines, workacross artistic disciplines, work-shop alumnae include visual artists D. L. Alvarez, Margaret Crane, Phoebe Gloeckner and Wayne Smith, video makers Ce-cilia Dougherty and Leslie Singer,

journalists Roberto Friedman, Glen Helfand and Katia Noyes, ReSearch founding editor Andrea Juno, and "In a Different Light" co-curator Larry Rinder.

co-curator Larry Rinder.

Outside her salon, the Indiana-born Bellamy, 45, is the director of Small Press Traffic, a non-profit dedicated to the promotion of emerging or experimental writers and the small presses that publish them. The organization recently found a home ganization recently found a home at New College, where it will present readings and workshops.

sent readings and workshops.
One of Bellamy's latest projects is a chapbook called "Broken
English"—"my tribute to Marianne Faithful!"—created for an
art show in New York called
"Smells Like Vinyl." The faux CD
liner notes comprise 30 pages of
alphabetically arranged, pornographic sentences culled from her
x-rated e-mail correspondence
with another poet.

with another poet.
Starting in the fall, Bellamy will be teaching creative writing at the San Francisco Art Institute. Workshop wannabes take note: Bellamy says the upcoming session will "probably be the last one in a long time." ▼

The workshop meets every Wednesday for 10 weeks, starting July 11, from 7 to 10 p.m. For information call 437-3454.

Breast cancer

■ page 74

expected this year. An estimated 44,300 women are expected to die of the disease this year; breast cancer is the second major cause of death in women.

Breast cancer among women increased about four percent annually between 1982 and 1987. Rates have recently leveled off at about 110 per 100,000 women. The risk of breast cancer in

creases with age, according to ACS. The risk is also higher in women who have personal or family histories of breast cancer; some forms of benign breast dissome forms of bengin breast dis-ease; early menarche; late menopause; lengthy exposure to cyclic estrogen; never had chil-dren or had the first live birth at a late age; and higher education and socioeconomic status.

ACS says a majority of women will have one or more risk factors, will have one or more risk factors, but most risks are at such a low level that they only partly explain the high frequency of the disease in the population. Researchers are studying additional factors that may increase breast cancer risk, including pesticide and other chemical exposures, alcohol consumption, induced abortion, and physical inactivity.

Unfortunately, increased

Unfortunately, increased knowledge about risk factors has not yet translated into practical ways to prevent the disease. Since women may not be able to alter their personal risk factors, the cancer society says the best op-portunity for reducing mortality is through early detection. It recommends asymptomatic women aged 40 to 49 should have

a screening mammogram every one to two years. A clinical breast exam is recommended every three

years for women aged 20 to 40. In light of those sobering statistics, members of the Breast Cancer Committee of ACT UP/Golden Gate have their work cut out for them. And they need more women involved to help get the word out and continue the

work they have started.

"We'd love it if we got several lesbians involved in breast cancer, and having monthly meetings,"

Parks says. ▼

For more information, call ACT UP/Golden Gate at (415) 252-9200 and leave a message for the Breast Cancer Committee.





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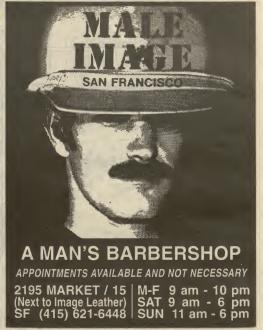
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Queer muckraker Daniel Harris gets to the bottom of what ails Bruce Bawer and friends in Beyond Queer. page 98

The Castro Theatre For many it's a sacred house of worship.

page 89



Pam Walton's Family Values A daughter attempts to connect with her right-wing father.

page 90



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 26 No. 26 27 June 1996



Queen's logic

Christian de Sica's Men Men Men

by Gary Morris

n our culture (and probably most), straight men — especially those in bonded groups like frat boys or sports teams — are allowed and even encouraged to engage in all kinds of anti-social, provocative, prankish behavior. Even violent activities like hazing are tolerated because "boys will be boys." The idea of a group of gay men behaving in similar ways is almost inconceivable in society and has therefore rarely been represented in movies.

sented in movies.

Italian director Christian de Sica gleefully disposes of this antiquated prejudice in his superbly plotted and acted Men Men Men. For once we get the refreshing sight of a group of queers behaving in an unapologetically juvenile, vicious manner, but with an enormous sense of style. The film opens in a jammed Italian discotheque, where oiled-up muscle hunks gyrate to the throbbing strains of "Don't want no short-dicked men!" A middle-aged queen emerges from the crowd to lure one of the straight dancers into the bathroom with the promise of a blowjob and

page 88 ▶



THIRD OF THREE SECTIONS

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UT THERE

by Pithy Galore

o which loudmouthed liberationist is rumored to be on "muscle enhancers" — and for cosmetic, not medicinal, purposes? He's gotten so pumped up that we're afraid to reveal his name, lest he (or his **bulky** name, lest he (or his **bulky boyfriend**, also reputed to be on the stuff) come punch us in our collective snoots. We can't resist a teensy hint, though: his initials are the same as the abbreviation for "manuscript." Our source tells us the "enhancers" in question — as-suming the duo's buffedness isn't solely from their labors at the gym, of course — are those new "natural," supposedly harmless (until someone does a study) ones.

Fassbinder

but one that brought howls of laughter from one of Mr. von P's filmmaking "collaborators" from a few years back, who told us, "This could be the pot colling the lettle you know het."

calling the kettle you know what, depending on how one defines 'slavery."

Everyone needs a hoo-hah

Are we in a dish-the-fags mood this week or what? Maybe

mood this week or what? Maybe so, but we've got nothing on the New York Observer, which took on queer life from NY to LA to SF in its June 24 issue. Michael M. Thomas got the ball rolling with his page-one story about the military, which segued into a critique of The New Yorker cover that "gayed up" Alfred Eisenstadt's 1945 VE Day photo: "Let me say right off that I think this cover is a sacrilege. My attitude has nothing

sacrilege. My attitude has nothing to do with gay rights, or gay bash-ing, or the apparent God-given right of gay people to superim-pose gay considerations on every

single aspect of everyone else's existence." (Don't get us started.)

Homosexuals the world over will be pleased to know that

Suck Harbor

Round up the usuals

John Schlesinger was in New York last week casting for the film version of *The Normal Heart*. Our source tells us that "all the usual suspects showed up" for the auditions, including at least two of the cast members from the current NY production of The Boys in the Band (a.k.a. The Drivel That Would Not Die). Now that The Celluloid Closer has made it to the screen, The Normal Heart is second only to The Front Runner as the "important" homo work that has taken the longest to film (Rubyfruit Jungle wins the lezzie award). the cast members from the cur-



Larry Kramer

And why has NH taken so long? Our source says that "it's basically [the play's author] Larry Kramer's fault for trying to control every nuance of [movie-rights holder] Barbra Barbra Streisand's interpretation. Even he admits it — well, sort of."

Better than an IM double issue

Do get your hands on the new Koala mail-order undie catalog. It's more fun than an International Male double-issue — hard bodies, some with luscious hardons. The designs are ever so creative, though the peekaboo balland-cock-separating Airforce briefs don't look all that comfort-able, something that even the ad copy admits could be the case. It might be easier to "show your true colors" with the more tasteful Peacock pair. Peacock pair.

To pee or not to pee

Understanding Rainer Werner Fassbinder is the title of a scholar-Fassbinder is the title of a scholarly new tome about the German director. It'll be reviewed elsewhere in this rag a few weeks hence (though we do question why 360 pages were needed to arrive at the only possible key to figuring out Fassbinder: lousy toilet training), but we did notice an amusing footnote about one of this week's gay film festival guests. It seems Rosa von Praunheim, director of the divertingly indulgent Neurosia, didn't get along too well with his fellow German. Von Praunheim wrote in a

man. Von Praunheim wrote in a 1992 essay that he "couldn't bear Fassbinder, because he loved slaves." A serious charge indeed,

Frank Digiacomo, "is said to refer to Mr. Nye as her husband's 'hoo-hah.'" (And don't you wish you could be the hoo-hah of with that

Food chain blues

Also in the Observer was the sad tale of Out magazine, which interviewed Sapphire for a big story only to have the poet-novelist crap out on a scheduled photo shoot. Out editor Sarah Pettit was quoted as saying, "There wasn't a Out

level of trust com-ing from I don't know which part of Sapphire's camp," a statement that's as loopy (read it carefully) as it is grammatically correct.

Sapphire

But what does it all mean? Freelance writer **Staci d'Eras-mo**, who did the interview, said that she couldn't imagine Sapphire's publisher, Knopf, letting her "get away with not showing up for a shoot for, say, Vanity Fair." And of course she's right, which may be more an indica-tion of Out's true place in the magazine world (as opposed to its overinflated conception of same) than evidence of the ho-mophobia Out's writer and editor suggest is lurking behind this

Inches away from success

On the lighter side, Billy Norwich's Observer column covers his reading at A Different Light on Castro Street: "Five people, two of whom I didn't know, attended. The 30 or so empty chairs were set up next to the section where the

section where the most, shall we say, vi-

most, shall we say, visual, magazines are sold and gentlemen cruise. As I read from my novel, flesh-toned images of emboldened male erotica flashed on glossy pages behind the heads of my audience of five. 'How could you compete with Inches' a friend queried when I arrived in Los Angeles.'

Unless ADL has changed its readings configuration Monsieur

There

readings configuration Monsieur Norwich is guilty of a bit of poet-ic license-taking, but we do regret that more people didn't show up for the witty fellow's appearance. We'd planned to attend ourselves, but couldn't because the Not Hill but couldn't because the Nob Hill was having that Hal Rockland retrospective.

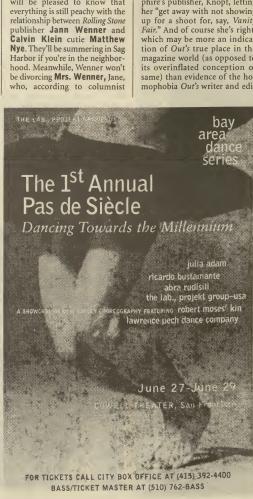
Confidential to Joan Jett-Blakk: In answer to your musical question, "Would you have used such an imperial tone were I not a negro?" The quick answer is, "Yes!" Perhaps our published remarks were a tad brutal, and so we apologize, but the real insult was dealt not to you, nor to us, but to apologize, but the real fishin was dealt not to you, nor to us, but to the author whose introducer couldn't be bothered to read past the book flap. Sweetiepumps, that's lame!

that's lame!
But you're right, Miss J-B. This truly is the season of sweetness and light, so if you've finished excoriating us in public and implying that we're racist, we promise never to pay attention to a single word you say at A Different Blight again. Luv your work, too!

Gay is not so good

The gloves really came off in Daniel Mendelsohn's pithy and not entirely off-the-mark Observer review of four recent gay books, including Brad Gooch's The Golden Age of Promiscuity ("simply the worst book you'll ever read gay, mainstream or otherwise") and Martin Duberman's Midlife Queer ("[t]he result is an exercise in vanity that will give

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Girl talk

Party: unrepentant, unpretentious campfest

by Chad Jones

more accurate title for the play Party might be Homo-sexuality 101. In two intermission-less hours, you learn everything you ever wanted to know about the generic social behaviors of gay men. The facts you will glean are not new: gay men love show tunes, consider Judy, Barbra, Liza et al. to be goddesses, like to get drunk play till leting. like to get drunk, play titillating

sex games with each other, talk the talk about friendship, toss off endless bon mots, and *love* to get

Everything you've heard about Party, already a big hit in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, is true. First-time playwright David Dillon's play is just an excuse to get seven very appealing men to shed their clothes, but such as it is. Party is also a light and fluffy exercise in fun.

There isn't really a plot to

Party, more like a two-hour gim-mick. Seven men gather to play a form of truth or dare called "Fact or Fantasy." After selecting a card from the deck, the men either have to tell a true story from their lives, like "the most embarrassing moment" or "the first sexual ex-perience," or make up a story if their card reads "fiction." If a "fantasy" card is chosen, the player must act out someone's fantasy. There are no rules or boundaries to the game, so whatever forward motion the play has rests in the anticipation of the next draw

The seven players are all of the white-bread, cookie-cutter-clone school of gay men (there's no one of color, which, in San Francisco is not very representative).
There's Kevin, the host, still smarting from his "divorce";
Peter, Kevin's college-age roommate, who is secretly in love with mate, who is secretly in love with Kevin; Ray, the priest, whose ex-hausting quip-slinging is non-stop; Brian, a slutty but good-hearted musical theater dancer; Philip, a bronzed and buffed sex-pot; James, a tame leather man; and Andy, a college student whose naiveté borders on the dewhose naivete borders on the developmentally challenged (he confuses Stonewall with Stonehenge and has to ask, "Barbra who?"). As a playwright, Dillon doesn't expose the interiors of the characters, and though we see every bit of each of them, we still



Camp Sisters: Steven Rhyne, Ray Barnhart and Kellum Lewis.



Steven Rhyne, Michael Gaffney and Ted Bales in Party.

masturbation

But Party does not rely on in-depth character exploration as much as it does on getting quick-ly from one laugh to the next, which the attractive cast accom-plishes with relish. Director Kel-lum Lewis, who also portrays Brian (a role he originated in Chicago and New York) leads his Chicago and New York), leads his actors through their paces knowingly and adheres to the production styles of previous productions. Ted Bales, who originated the role of Father Ray, has played the role over 800 times but still manages to be fresh and funny. manages to be fresh and tunny. This defiantly gay man with a sharp (and wicked) sense of humor is hard to imagine as a priest — not because of his homosexuality, but because it's hard to imagine him taking anything very seriously. Still, Bales is a delight, an odd cross between Emma Thompson and Barbra Streisand

with expert comic timing.

Each cast member has his strengths, but San Franciscans Steven Rhyne, as the shy but gorgeous Peter, and Michael Gaffney

as the older and somewhat wiser Kevin, are real standouts. Because there is a hint of romance be-tween their two characters, Rhyne and Gaffney are able to break out of the two-dimensional cast and expose a bit of their hearts as they

expose their bodies.

Though AIDS is always present, it is hardly mentioned over the course of the play. Dillon has instead chosen to focus on lighter, brighter topics, like Karen Car-penter, masturbation, the differpenter, masturbation, the difference between a cast album and a soundtrack, the debate over whether kissing is a sexual act and, sigh, the importance of friends. There's very little substance to this Party, but the laughs are consistent, the bodies are lovely, and the playwright is able to sneak in more than enough charm and romance to make the whole thing palatable. *Party* is the ideal piece of sunny summer theater.

Party continues at the Cable Car Theatre. Call 956-8497 for information.

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One-woman show

Omewenne in Nico...My Empty Pages

by Robin Sweeney

mewenne is Nico.

Omewenne is also the best part of Nico ... My Empty Pages, playing through July 21 at the Noh Space. Omewenne has Nico's stunning looks, icy demeanor, and unique, foghornish voice down pat. As playwright and lead, she brings Nico alive, and takes the audience through a two-act show that deftly traverses the colorful life of the one-time Warhol superstar, singer, musician, model, and heroin addict. Unfortunately, the rest of the cast falls flat.

nalis liat.

Nico's life was filled with enough drama and angst to fill a thousand stages. Born Christa Paffgen in Nazi Germany in 1938, Nico was abandoned by her father — who was later killed by the Gestapo — and raised by her mother. She grew up to be beautiful, a successful model, and a member of Andy Warhol's Factory. She starred in the Warhol-Paul Morrissey vehicle The Chelsea Girls and became the femme fatale of the Lou Reed-fronted Vel-



Omewenne is Nico.

vet Underground. Later, Nico recorded several albums with John Cale, which earned praise for their originality. The highlight of Nico ... My Empty Pages is when Omewenne performs Nico's songs while playing the suitable dirge-producing harmonium.

The other cast members at-

The other cast members attempt to recreate the colorful people in Nico's milieu — Andy Warhol, Brian Jones, Edie Sedgwick, Jim Morrison. But these larger-than-life personalities can't be encompassed by one-note, campy portrayals. Compared to Omewenne's incredibly rich version of Nico, few of the ensemble's performances hold up. Only in actor Gabriel Walsh — as Alain Delon and Nico's son, Ari — does Omewenne have a balance. Brett Reid Parker's portrayals of both Andy Warhol and Brian Jones are based on identical whines. As Jim Morrison, Judd Dunning fails to demonstrate any of the charisma Nico believed her soul brother possessed.

possessed.

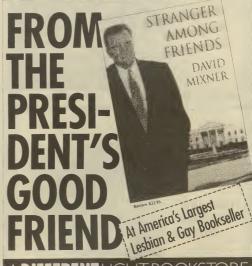
Nico was a heroin addict, and drugs were a vital part of her life. While I don't want to glamorize the use of drugs — especially something as dangerous as heroin — I expect a certain level of verisimilitude from actors portraying addicts. Except for the shockingly beautiful scene where Nico injects her adult son Ari, I had to wonder why these actors made such unconvincing junkies.

With luck, the ensemble will

With luck, the ensemble will strengthen over the run, and provide the support Omewenne's remarkable performance requires. She deserves it. •

Nico ... My Empty Pages, written and performed by Omewenne, continues through July 21 at the Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa Street (at Alabama). Call 621-7978 for tickets and information.





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The Kinsey Sicks

Dragapalooza

Kinsey Sicks in Sicks-Tease!

by Jerry Metzker

he ability of drag to parrot and parody knows no bounds, especially when the concept is as smart as the one The Kinsey Sicks have brought to the stage at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. By day these four gentlemen don suits and ties and work as lawyers and business professionals. But as The Kinsey Sicks, they exchange daywear for big hair, heels, and the opportunity to strut their stuff.

Drag shows are hardly unusual in San Francisco, but this is more than a drag show. What makes these broads distinct from the Usual Suspects is their unique style of vocal performance — no lip-synching or Karaoke-style singing for them. They call themselves a dragapella beautyshop quartet, which is the drag way of saying an a capella barbershop quartet. If you're still not certain what that is, you've got through this weekend to get to Josie's to hear Rachel, Trixie, Vaselina, and Winnie and figure it out.

In their latest show, aptly titled Sicks-Tease!, the quartet has pulled

out all the stops in a musical exploration of the '60s. When they sing "Hair," for example, they mean it, collectively displaying some of the biggest hair imaginable.

All the songs the quartet performs (without musical accompaniment) are familiar, only each is given its own unique camp spin. The Supremes' "Love Child," for instance, is done as a testimonial on artificial insemination. And as sentimental as "To Sir With Love" sounds after all these years, the piece gets a new lease on life when the back-up trio is "lu lu lu" (I'm sure you get it). More than two dozen songs are dragified for this show, including "Fever," "Macho Man," and "We Are the Champions"

the Champions."

No writer or director is credited for putting this show together, but it has the look and feel of a group effort, and a very successful one at that.

The Kinsey Sicks — Ben Schatz, Maurice Kelly, Jerry Friedman and Irwin Keller continue in Sicks-Tease! at Josie's through June 28. Added 10 p.m. show on Friday, June 28. Call 861-7933 for tickets.



HEADSHOTS,

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Paul Provenza and Mark Nelson in Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Meeting of minds

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

by Chad Jones

teve Martin's Picasso at the Lapin Agile isn't exactly a wild and crazy play, but it's close enough. Martin, the former comedian — he of the arrow-impaled head — and current movie star, has turned his prodigious talents to play writing, and the results are impishly comic and enteresting.

sults are impishly comic and en-tertaining.

The San Francisco production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* comes to the Theatre On the Square directly from a successful run off-Broadway. With *Party*, another transplanted New York hit running only a block away, you can almost squint and imagine you're almost squint and imagine you're in New York.

But while *Party's* laughs come

quick, cheap and quippy (not to mention naked), Picasso's humor reflects its author: it's graceful, ro-bust and quirky. Martin has imag-ined a 1904 meeting between a 25-year-old Albert Einstein and a 23-year-old Picasso. Martin's fan-tasy swirls together notions of art, science, how the two disciplines

are related, and how they will affect the still-unforseeable shape of the 20th century.

From beginning to end, this

From beginning to end, this 90-minute one-act belongs to Einstein, brought hilariously to life by the astute and nimble artistry of Mark Nelson. The Lapin Agile (an actual bar in Paris frequented by Picasso, which translates roughly as "the nimble rabbit") may be full of zany, interesting characters but it's hard not esting characters, but it's hard not to watch Nelson's every move. His Einstein is bursting with a gleeful

Einstein is bursting with a gleeful brilliance and sweet genius that make him utterly irresistible.

Unfortunately, stand-up comic Paul Provenza's Picasso is not nearly as captivating. The handsome Provenza goes for the oversexed bluster and ego of old Pablo, but he lacks command and neales in comparison to the vibrant. pales in comparison to the vibrant Nelson. Still, under director Ran-dall Arney's sure direction, and with a lively supporting cast that includes Bill Buell as the hysterically weird art dealer Sagot, and Rondi Reed as the sagacious and sexy barkeeper's wife, things rarely go wrong in this rollicking

talk fest.

talk fest.

The play bristles with Martin's wit, and it's a testament to his writing skill that the audience can easily imagine the silver-haired actor playing each of the 11 characters he has created (except maybe the stolid Picasso, which could be part of the problem). When a sultry Parisian woman is asked if she knows Picasso, she answers coyly, "Twice." Once Einstein and Picasso have discovered a soul mate in one another, they stein and Picasso have discovered a soul mate in one another, they riff on the untapped potential of the new century: "We need a nice, juicy manifesto," Einstein purrs. "It's always good to have a raison dêtre with your morning coffee."

By play's end, Martin has taken a flight of fancy that starts out wastikwight assurprise vicitors from

a flight of fancy that starts out warily with a surprise visitor from the future and ends, complete with special effects, on a perfect note of soulful whimsy.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile continues at the Theatre On the Square. Call 433-9500 for information.

The common struggles of cultural and sexual identity, and of public and private personae are explored in two new groups of paint ings: a series of four-foot-square self-portraits and a series of large silk-screened paintings based on news photos documenting the 1995 Million Man March.

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Scrapbooks created by the artist as an extension of this presentation are currently on view at The Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California; 973 Market Street, Suite 400



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Out There

◄ page **83**

solipsism a bad name for years to

It gets worse: Mendelsohn finds Homosexuality in History author Colin Spencer to be "unrestrained by any expertise what-soever." Of Spencer's assertion that "homosexuality should be defended on the (I suppose) ecological grounds that in same-sex acts the semen is not wasted [but] swallowed as nourishment or ab-sorbed by the rectum," the reviewer retorts that this claim "will surely come as a surprise to gay men with fond recollections of the -condom, post-coital dash to

As Pithy Galore has often ob-As Pithy datore has often ob-served, it's easier to be bitchy than sweet. (And mind you, this was the *Observer*'s gay-pride-week issue.) Mendelsohn devotes less than a tenth of his review to the one book he seems to have liked, **Stephen 0.** Murray's American Gay, before concluding that because the "gay-studies ghetto is such a lucrative market," books get published because they're gay, not good.

Apparently the lesbian literary market isn't as solid, as a little birdy told us that **Sarah Schul** man's previous publisher has re jected her latest book. ▼

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FRANCISCO (415)

Lesbian cinema

■ Arts cover

tensibly, what the festival is all about — that they can a priori dismiss as ridiculous a question that keeps some of us up at night? If lesbians constituted a stronger cinematic presence — if there were more dyke product — we wouldn't be having this metaphysical discussion. While it is not the place of the media to dictate

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to the purveyors of lesbian film, since they've asked the question, this lesbian journalist would like to respond. First let's look at the festival's "lesbian features."

Egocentric overachiever

What makes Butterfly Kiss a lesbian feature? Michael Winterbottom's film of Frank Cottrell Boyce's script follows a loud-mouth sociopath (Amanda Plum-mer) around the English country-side while she kills nearly everyone she chats up, regardless of age or gender. While obsessing about a woman named Judith, she fucks a lot of men before getting herself killed by a servile and slow-witted groupie (Saskia Reeves) who s only following orders. What makes Female Perver-

sions a lesbian feature? Susan Stre-itfeld's linear narrative adaptation of a cultural studies book by Louise Kapian stars Tilda Swinton as an egocentric overachiever with a Pigpen-style sister (Amy Madigan) who thinks kleptomania is a terrorist activity. The only lesbian in the film, very sympathetically portrayed by Laila Robbins, is a

portrayed by Laila RODDINS, is a minor character who sticks around long enough for a sex scene with Tilda.

Life 1s a Woman, a potboiler from Kazakhstan, is translated in the subtitles as "Life is a Dame," but they may mean "Life's a Bitch." Zhanna Serikbayeva's dykesploitation flick offers a long, turgid look at lesbian hell in a turgid look at lesbian hell in a post-Iron Curtain prison — unfortunately not played for laughs. Sharon Pollack's Everything's Relative has been called the lesbian Big Chill. Make that The Big

Snore. A group of middle-class white dykes reunite for a Northampton weekend to process



A scene from Everything's Relative.

life 20 years post-graduation and go to bed with each other. No original idea troubles the charac-ters' generalized surfaces, which continue interacting long after we've lost interest.

Losse Ends, a soap opera from Germany, interweaves the sexual flailings of a group of friends in Berlin. Nina (Jasmin Tabatabai),

the token lesbian, is addicted to the token lesbian, is addicted to liquor and one-night stands until she mauls her chance for true love with Ella (played by director San-dra Nettlebeck) and drives into a truck. Ella is at her bedside when the monitor emits the uninter-rupted beep that signals the dyke

page **92** ▶



From Christian de Sica's sexy farce, Men Men Men.

Men Men Men

■ Arts cover

300,000 lire. To the dancer's sur-300,000 lire. To the dancer's surprise, the queen turns evil and is joined by three other men, who threaten to arrest him for solicitation, then rip off his pants to get a look at his dick. "All smoke and no mirrors — it was tiny!" one of them complains, as they laughted. ingly depart. This is only the first in a series of increasingly elabo-rate, nasty "jokes" by this crazed

Vicious circle

The butchest of the group is "Backward Sandro," so-called because he's only recently out, divorced with a son. Sandro, played by the gorgeous Massimo Ghini, is a filmmaker. Tony (Leo Gullotta) owns a clothing shop, and has the sad look of a male Giuletta Masina. Dado (Alessandro Haber) is an acid-tongued orthopedic surgeon who insists on treating is an acid-tongued orthopedic surgeon who insists on treating his young male patients' neck injuries by examining their groins. He says to one puzzled guy, "the groin ... the neck ... a vicious circle." Completing the group is Vittorio (played by director de Sica), an architect who is obsessed with Fred Astaire and is having an affair with a bisexual student. There's also the obligatory fag hag, Simonetta (Monia Scattini), who watches the escapades of her perpetual adolescent friends with perpetual adolescent friends with amused interest.

Increasingly desperate in their search for fun, the group begins to enact more complex, meaner charades. In one episode, they pre-tend that they're straight, that their young straight friend Luca (Paco Reconti) is "queer," and that they can make stars out of a trio of bimbos they pick up. Typically, Vittorio coddles one of the women on his lap, while whispering to Luca that he's getting a hard-on "because she reminds me of Bruce Springsteen." After they unceremoniously dump the women among a group of road-side whores, the four friends and Luca wrestle and cavort on the beach, mooning each other and beach, mooning each other and hurling dish. Eventually, in a piv-otal moment that threatens to de-stroy their bond, along with their professional lives, they turn on a drunken, terrified Luca. Interwoven with the pranks are a series of individual subplots that add depth to what is essen-

that add depth to what is essentially a high-pitched, brilliantly dishy farce. Vittorio grapples with the coming marriage of his lover Alex; Tony and Dado come to blows over a handsome Sicilian "parachutist" who sleeps with both of them; Sandro and Simonetta both fall in love with Luca. etta both fall in love with Luca. But the film never loses sight of its goal of being amusing in the mode of Petronius. Tony describes in detail "an old recipe from Tuscany ... how to cook dicks and cunts." But Dado gets many of the best lines. At Alex's wedding, he complains that the bride "looks like a Bosnian refugee with those curls" and refers to Vittorio, who's been dumped by Alex, as "the widow." When Simonetta says she'd even fuck Tony in order to have a child, Dado replies, "With Tony's face and your thighs he'd look like a minotaur."

Men Men Men plays Friday, June 28 (3 p.m.) at the Castro Theatre



Celluloid solace

Born again at the Castro Theatre

by Gary Morris

ohn Lennon's famous quote that the Beatles were more popular than Jesus Christ s a queer re-reading. In some rarefied quarters (my apart-ment), Joan Crawford and Bette Davis are deemed more worthy Davis are deemed more worthy of worship than the prosaic Christian deities. At some point that historians have yet to determine, camp replaced Christianity for many of us. Since organized religion is based on repression, moralism, "family values," and other tedious historical phenomena it's no suprivise that modern ena, it's no surprise that modern queens have looked to the movie-going experience for spiritual so-

The Castro Theatre is the crown jewel of this new religion. We've become so comfortable with this slightly dusty but still grand temple that we tend to take it for granted. But the Castro has been a crucial component of modern gay life in a way that extends beyond the borders of the neighborhood. It is, after all, the most successful independent theatre in the country.

megnorinour, it is, anter air, the most successful independent theatre in the country.

Yet, despite its notoriety, few people know that the present Castro is not the original Castro Theatre. The first one was located a few doors down the street, where Cliff's Variety Store is today. The Nasser family were nickelodeon owners who built in 1910 with a mere 600 seats. The present building, which opened 12 years later, tripled the seating. Architect Timothy Pflueger, one of the stars of the Deco Theatre movement (he also created Oakland's Paramount Theatre and San Francisco's Alcreated Oakland's Paramount Theatre and San Francisco's Al-hambra Theatre), designed the exterior to resemble a Spanish castle. The interior was envi-sioned as the inside of a vast (plaster) tent, with enormous ta-pestries, trompe l'oeil murals, and a gigantic chandelier. The first film shown at the Castro on July a gigantic chandelier. The first film shown at the Castro, on July 22, 1922, was a Wallace Reid aviation epic, Across the Continent. (Devotees of dark Hollywood will recall that Reid became a junkie whose death was one of Hollywood's great early cautionary tales.)

Unlikely beginnings

Before it was taken over by local art movie impresario Mel Novikoff in 1976, the Castro was a run-down neighborhood theatre, playing second runs and somehow limping along. But Novikoff's takeover turned the theatre into a focal point — a mix of community center and cultural space — for the area's mix of community center and cultural space — for the area's transition from a working-class straight neighborhood to its present-day status as a thrilling gay

mecca.

Novikoff's activism took
many forms. He spent \$20,000
refurbishing and updating the
theatre. He resisted efforts by the
owners to replace it with a commercial retail space, and eventu-ally made it untouchable by shepherding it into historic landmark status

Programmer Anita Monga, who has worked for the theatre since 1987, says that attempts to make the Castro a landmark were fraught with controversy because it was "perceived as a stumbling block to turning it into a successful retail space." Novikoff, with allies like Harvey Milk, had played a central part a decade earlier in saving the Castro from the fate of the legendary Fox Theatre, which was eventually torn down. Film buffs, however, will remember Novikoff for other things: he pioneered a par-ticular kind of Hollywood studio-based repertory that distin-guished the Castro from the more typical (and more easily available) art house program-ming of other rep houses of the time—the Strand, the Surf, and

time—the Strand, the Surf, and the Bridge.

Terry Bratcher, who did distribution and calendars for the theatre in the early days, remembers the Castro as the most successful of the many 1970s rep houses. "The Castro always made the most money because it always had a walking neighborhood, and Mel Novikoff had a theme ... the Castro always theme . . . the Castro always seemed to have a life of its own."

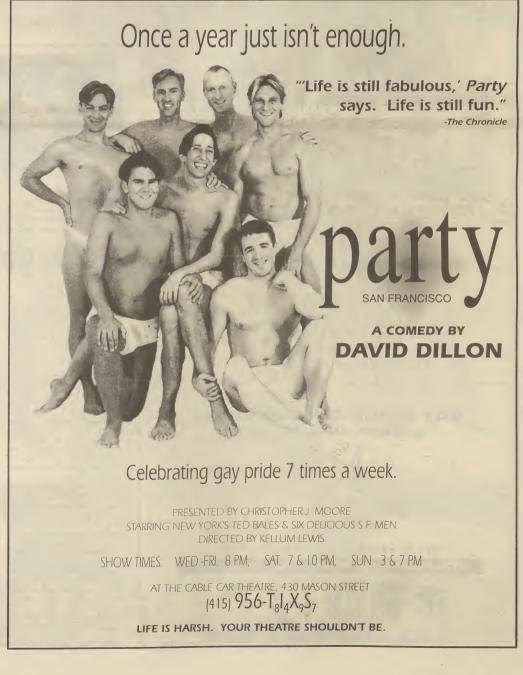
Programming was bold at a time when there was still a lively counterculture, future thinking was considered *de rigueur*, and the "classics" had a faint reactionary aura. The Castro launched the aura. The Castro launched the first major commercial retrospectives of stars and studios — 20th Century Fox and Warner Bros., among others — and accomplished the unthinkable in persuading studios to strike new prints of old movies long abandoned as unprofitable.

Since it was quickly apparent that this was a cozy homo haven, audiences had no trouble expressing their appreciation or dislike of what was happening onscreen. Gary Meyer, founder of Landmark Theatres, remembers

Landmark Theatres, remembers that when Jonathan Demme's Stop Making Sense was premiered there in 1985, the packed audience got up and started dancing, gleefully erasing the line between art and experience. "You could

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The Waltons

American tragedy

Pam Walton's Family Values

by Erin Blackwell

am Walton's video diary Family Values is an elegant record of the auteur's frusher radical right father, offset by loving portraits of the women in her life. By staying close to the subjective facts, this sly slice of intimate investigative reporting op-erates like a Greek tragedy, revealing a familial schema resonant on a national level. Never has the personal smelled so political.

Pam's mother died in 1968. That was the end of that "family." Mr. Walton remarried and moved back East to start another right wing version. At 25, Pam made her first film, a black-and-white hand-held tribute to the hippie pad where sister Laurie and friends smoked pot under a Mao poster. Pam naively wanted "Fa-ther to be proud." Instead he "told Laurie she was no longer welcome at his home." Eventually maintaining phone contact only with son John, Dad was otherwise incommunicado for 15 years, until 50-year-old Pam teamed up with her younger sister to push for a rapprochement.

rapprochement.

By turning her camera on the minutiae of family alienation, Pam strings together a narrative driven by hope and mired in disappointment. Gender issues aren't verbalized, but John's privileged access to Dad seems based on a manly pact to remain un-emotional — whatever that

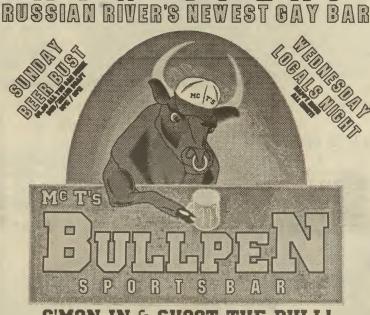
The most grueling moment, the emotional heart of the film,

comes when Laurie, a divorced mother of two, reads a letter to her father begging him to communicate with her. That letter goes unanswered; Laurie goes un-recognized; this failure remains unredeemed by Pam's ability to assemble a video around it. Researching Dad's profession-

al activities, Pam contacts the In-stitute for First Amendment Studies, which monitors the reli-gious right. Reversing the roles of parent and child, she is shocked ten himself mixed up with a bunch of crazy radicals. Skip Porteus, the Institute's director, tells Pam her father is "one of the country's leading reconstruc-tionists."

"Wishing for the good old days before the American Revolu-tion," as Pam so wryly puts it, "reconstructionists want every aspect of social life governed by [their version of] biblical law. [their version of] biblical law. This includes the death penalty for practicing homosexuals, abor-tionists, blasphemers and even disobedient children." While the quest for Father provides the film's suspenseful

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RuPaul and John Epperson mix it up in Red Ribbon Blues

few good flicks

by David Lamble

you're looking for a few good flicks for your Gay Day weekend viewing pleasure, I recommend: Boys by the Bay (Saturday, June 29, 8 p.m., Roxie) is a showcase for home-grown product. This year's program features the return of three promising young film-makers. Michael Jortner's relation Trip poignantly records the trou-bling emotional journey of a twentysomething gay man who begins a relationship with a fe-male roommate. An adroit mixwishful thinking, relation Trip provides female and male views of a doomed coupling. For a completely different trip,

John Church takes us to Why, Arizona, in which sex-crazed queer lads get down and nasty in the

lads get down and nasty in the back of a camper, demonstrating that there are parts of the country where speed limits don't apply.

Unscreened but recommended is O Happy Dayby African-American filmmaker and transplanted New Yorker Charles Lofton, who greatly impressed last year with greatly impressed last year with his sexy subway improvisation, I Like Dreaming.

Last year, my friend Karl disappeared, probably, some of us

think, because he'd been denied a life-extending drug. In *Red Ribbon* Blues (Castro Theatre, Saturday, June 29, 8 p.m.), four members of an HIV support group get revenge on the drug companies, the government and the AIDS industry. Very much in the spirit of the original ACT UP, the brazen quartet decides to steal the drugs their insurance can't buy. These Robin Hoods of the AIDS war also spark a community debate about empowerment. Red Ribbon Blues boasts a Details magazine dream cast — Paul Mercurio (the sexy hunk from Strictly Ballroom), Ru-Paul, John Epperson (sans the Lypsinka wig), and a saucy fag hag heroine played by Debi Mazar. Ever since the late Nestor Al-mendros blew the whistle on the

persecution of gay people in Castro's Cuba (*Improper Conduct*, 1984), there's been a real need for queer Americans to get a more complicated look at gender politics in the world's most controversial on-going revolution. *Gay Cuba* (Roxie, Saturday, June 29, 4 p.m.), written and directed by San Francisco's Sonia de Fries, goes some distance in building on *Im-*proper's legacy. On the same pro-gram is *Moscow Fags*, a timely update on the plight of gay men in Boris Yeltsin's Russia.

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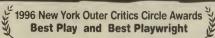
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GROUP SALES: 415-346-7805 or 510-236-0562 **BASS** 415/776-1999 7/CKETS 510/762-**BASS** A scene from Rescuing Desire

Lesbian cinema

■ page 88

The Midwife's Tale, a drippy evocation of castle life, offers 19th century-style medievalism with a quasi-feminist twist. Lady Eleanor, a tomboy, teams up with

Eleanor, a tomboy, teams up with an apprentice midwife to outsmart the evil priest so they can go live in the woods on nuts and berries. Megan Siler directed.

Rescuing Desire is a middle-aged coming-out movie, directed by Adam Rogers and scripted by producer Catherine May Levin. Schtick with a heart of gold, the movie's comically heightened take on bar girls, the S/M scene and a extended Mafioso fantas will barextended will barextended will be will be will be will be will extended Mafioso fantasy will baf-fle those not schooled in the Broadway musical tradition.

Work, a slice of rural cinéma vérité directed by Rachel Reichman, with luminous 16mm photography by Steven Giuliano, is that rare thing — an honest piece of work. The protagonist, an out-of-work white woman in a bluecollar marriage, gets involved with her black lesbian neighbor but

fails to commit.

Watermelon Woman is a black lesbian filmmaker's version of her cultural heritage in a racist culture, intercut with a dramatization of how that theme plays itself out in her own life. Cheryl Dunye uses a lot of style and humor to package some sizzling, potentially explosive contents.

Bound, Inn Trouble and Late

Bloomers were not available for pre-festival screening.

Apolitical beanbags

From the looks of it, the 1994 festival opener Go Fish — a celebration of multicultural dyke community told in hip cinematic terms — was a solitary new wave. Watermelon Woman is one other

wave in the vast cinematic sea.

Lesbians have gained a visible foothold as supporting players in other people's stories; we've earned the right to assimilationist group portraits; we've lost some of our subversive edge; we're starting to look like apolitical beanbags. Is this how straights feel trying to sit through Hollywood product?

Festival programmers are at the mercy of the available choic-es. Men still make many more movies than women do. Achiev-

ing parity in programming despite disparity in production is an exercise in affirmative action Frameline should be encouraged

To guide them in their choices, the following aesthetic and emotional criteria attempt to define "What is a lesbian film?"

Lesbian films tell lesbian ver-

sions of reality.

Lesbian films are made by lesbian eyes for lesbian eyes. Other people are welcome to watch, but the movie isn't made for them. Lesbian experiences aren't trans-lated into non-lesbian terms. Les-bian mindsets are central, dominant and determining — even when the lesbian subjects hold marginalized positions. Parts of these films and often entire levels of meaning will only make sense

to lesbians.

Lesbian films are necessary acts of self-determination. As a acts of self-determination. As a negotiation of the real world, filmmaking is a kind of aesthetic decathlon dykes shouldn't be excluded from. On the imaginary level, filmmaking is an exploration of dyke consciousness that ipso facto only dykes can undertake

Lesbian films aren't directed by men. Yes, imagination is all about inhabiting other spaces than those biologically or culturally deter-mined. However, certain groups have historically been denied ac-cess to the means of self-representation in a deliberate attempt to destroy their autonomy. This is the case for women in general and

the case for women in general and lesbians in particular.

The question isn't, Can or should a man direct a lesbian film? but, Will the men kindly relinquish a few cameras so that the women can exercise our right to self-representation? Lesbian film is not so all established or exis not so old, established or ex-hausted that we need an influx of men directors to refreshen our vision of ourselves. Men are en-couraged to throw some of their disproportionately high salaries at their sisters' productions. Lesbian films are not mindless

rearrangements of stereotypes. Film in general is having a hard time engendering any original vision in this post-modern, post-mortem period. Few directors are bothering to apply the medium to authentic personal experience maybe because they don't have

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Castro Theatre

■ page **89**

feel the *floor* dancing," he recalls.

This kind of spontaneous reaction was seen on a daily basis in screams of approval, boos and in screams of approval, boos and catcalls that routinely greeted the screenings, a tradition that continues today. If straight society forbade authentic gay self-expression, the Castro — both theatre and neighborhood — encouraged it. Perhaps Mel Novikoff set the tone at one of the theatre's many ceremonial the theatre's many ceremonial events, when he inadvertently re-ferred to the new pipe organ as "the Castro's greatest erection."

Torch singers and Smellovision'

Some of the bills have hit the outer boundaries of camp, with refreshingly little regard for com-mercial potential. One film pub-licist remembers a night in the early 1980s when Les Blank did a live re-creation of one of the tackier 1950s cinema break-throughs: Smellovision. Blank's version was "Aromarama," which consisted of the filmmaker himself walking up and down the aisle waving his hand over a working toaster oven to bring the 'odor" of his film to startled au-

Camp and social consciousness are rarely seen in tandem, but the recent screening of The but the recent screening of *The Poseidon Adventure*, which featured a live appearance by Carol Lynley, typifies the Castro's dedication to its community. This screamingly funny evening had its share of surprises — local street musician Susan "The Space Lady" soulfully rendering "There's Got to Be a Morning After" with accordion and blink-After" with accordion and blink-ing Viking helmet; and Carol Lynley's interviewer (Edward Guthmann, SF Chronicle) shrieking at the less-than-reverent au-dience, "Have some respect for

Defining

1910 - Nasser Bros, Theatre opens Castro Theatre at 485 Castro St., now occu-pied by Cliff's Variety Store.

1922 — The Timothy Pflueger-designed Castro Theatre at 429 Castro opens on July 22 with a screening of Across the Continent, star-ring Wallace Reid.

1960 — The Nassers sell the original Robert-Morton pipe organ and replace it later (1979) with the Wurlitzer heard in the theatre today.

1976 — Mel Novikoff The-atre Company takes over the Castro Theatre from the Nassers on August 4.

1977 — The Castro Theatre

1987 — Anita Monga is hired as programmer for the theater. Over the course of several years, she transforms the Castro into one of the most profitable repertory theatres in the U.S.

1989 — The Castro closes due to damage sustained to the structure after the October 17 Loma Prieta earth-quake. Reopens in November

1992 - Blumenfeld Enterprises installs new screen, re ovates sound system and upgrades projection equipment.



the lady!" Proceeds from this sell-out went to AIDS charities.

Although too respectable a venue to feature the kind of balcony orgies that characterized its cony orgies that characterized its downtown counterpart, the Strand, the Castro has been fearless in bringing the sexual underground above ground — at least onscreen. Lesbian vampire clip shows, forced female circumcision, sadomasochism and ritual murder (Frisk), and of course, every permutation of drag images. every permutation of drag imag-

Celluloid milestones

nder Anita Monga, the Castro Theatre has blos-Castro Theatre has blossomed into one of the most important — and successful — independent cinemas in the U.S. The theatre has consistently championed works considered at the forefront of the New Queer Cinema movement, and others of general interest. The following is a list of some of the theatre's most important San Francisco premieres:

Scenes from the Class Struggle in Beverly Hills

1990:

Fun Down There Mala Noche (revival) Looking for Langston

Labyrinth of Passion The Living End Tongues Untied Without You I'm Nothing War Requiem

1991:

Poison Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe

1992:

Daddy and the Muscle Academy Edward II
The Living End Swoon

1993-

Being at Home With Claude Boy's Shorts Forbidden Love

Last Call at Maude's Sex Is ... Thank God I'm a Lesbian

1994-

Boys Life Coming Out Under Fire Go Fish Grief Am My Own Woman

The Queen (revival) Totally F***ed Up Wittgenstein

1995:

Bar Girls Midnight Dancers
Postcards from America
The Sum of Us
World and Time Enough

1996:

The Celluloid Closet

inable have all had serious, in-depth and — when appropriate — fun representation.

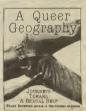
Vito Russo, author of *The Celluloid Closet* and a regular presenter of clip shows based on his

book, died a few years back. While he didn't live to see the explosion of queer cinema over the past few years, the Castro, which has been instrumental in helping this happen, provided him with a last, posthumous venue. According to Rob (*The Celluloid Closet*) Epstein, some of Russo's ashes were recently put inside the walls of the theatre. Clearly, this church takes care of its own. ▼



An Evening at the Garden of Allah: A Gay Cabaret in Seattle By Don Paulson Columbia University Press

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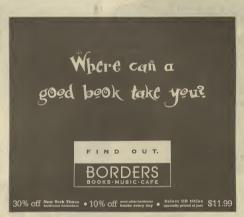
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Slasher epic

by John Blanco

Cream, Teen, Scream is a gender-fuck spoof of '80s slasher flicks in which very little fake blood is spilled. Instead, the movie concentrates on sending up the teen archetypes that populated films of the sex 'n' slaughter genre.

This movie presents us with a trio of characters ripe for drag interpretation. First there's foulmouthed, Spandex-clad Lisa Blair (Alexis Arquette), who is clearly a "bad girl," as indicated on her sleazy black halter top. Next, there's goody-goody Jennie Lee Curtis (Robert Ring), who just says no to everything, except sex with Lisa's well-hung, blond boyfriend. Finally, there's the movie's heroine, Jackie De Palma (Jackie Beat), a chubby, virginal teen whose most significant relationship is with junk food (she has a special fondness for Hot Pockets).

Using these characters, the film spins a plot reminiscent of the seminal 1978 slasher flick, Halloween. Scream, Teen, Scream takes place on Halloween evening at the De Palma household, where Jackie has invited her friends Lisa and Jennie Lee over for a slumber party. Being the loving mom that she is, Mrs. De Palma (Sherry Vine) has stocked the girls with chips, candy, a Crock Pot of chicken a laking and a firearm. Children should not be home

packet has invited her iriends Lisa and pennie Lee over for a simultor party. Being the loving mom that she is, Mrs. De Palma (Sherry Vine) has stocked the girls with chips, candy, a Crock Pot of chicken a la king and a firearm. "Children should not be home alone without a handgun," Mrs. De Palma insists.

Especially not when there's an "apricot hanky serial killer" on the loose. Listening to TV news reports about the killer, Jackie becomes particularly fearful when the perky anchorwoman explains that the apricot hanky is "well-known in deviant sex circles as the calling card of a chubby chaser." To get their minds off the killer, Jackie and her friends do bong hits and play with a Ouija board, but Ouija play only makes things worse when the girls conjure the ghost of Karen Carpenter, who warns them that the killer is "close to you."

You're likely to know who the killer is within the first two or three minutes of Scream, Teen, Scream, but that doesn't spoil the fun. This is a rare spoof, consistently funny and on-target from beginning to end. The 40-minute running time helps; it's as if the movie had been pared down to just the best jokes and most essential action. Directed by Joshua Rosenzweig from a script by Jackie Beat and T.C. Smith.

Scream, Teen, Scream plays Saturday, June 29 (10 p.m.) at the Castro Theatre.

Lesbian cinema

any. Lesbians have the benefit of outsider status, if it doesn't get lost in the race to assimilate.

Our experience of the margins we have known and hated — in the financial district, in our biological families — represents a gold mine of comic and dramatic material that has gone largely unexploited. Were we able to tell these real stories, sans the politically corrective glow or the sticky romantic gloss, we might recap-ture some of the humanity we've lost through our own largely de-fensive mythmaking.

Too often, our hunger for pos-

itive self-images results in enter-tainment that won't tackle the harder emotions we have to go through. Our desire to document our lives often limits our self-depictions to those romantic, do-mestic or communal "scenes" in which lesbian behavior is central.



Cheryl Dunye

Girl Meets Girl; Girl Comes Out Into Supportive Community; Girls March; Girls Party; Girls

Lesbian films are not just pos-itive self-images, but images, pos-itive and negative, that express the situations of lesbian personae. That may be why sex scenes con-

ceived of as defining moments are usually worse than reductive; they're obscurantist — displaying body surfaces, they block the flow of subjectivity.

Marginal gold mine

Lesbian films are not a series of images shot from the outside, in which lesbians present themselves like meat for the consumer gaze. Lesbian films constitute a view not so much of as from the inside, a record of dyke consciousness, a proof that lesbians have souls.

Not all lesbian films will be great, but cinematic constructs, however liminal, constitute a vocabulary that can be built on. There is so much to be done! So many characters and episodes — contemporary and herstorical, real and surrealist — to be recounted, so many psychological vagaries to be traced. Barbara Hammer, Marleen Gorris, Lizzie Borden, Rose Troche and Cheryl Dunye notwithstanding, we have not yet begun to film. ▼

Family Values

■ page **90**

thread, Pam is determined not to let his distanced disapproval de-fine her life. Among the ex-lovers and lifelong friends whose pres-ence lights up the screen is Ruth O'Shay, a white-haired matriarch from the old neighborhood. She remembers going to hear the elder Walton speak out against homo-sexuals at a Presbyterian Church in Menlo Park. "The longer he talked the angrier I became," she says. Afterwards, she told him, "'It's beyond my ken, how a father can so damn his own child.' He didn't refute what I said. How

could he?

Having for a daughter a les-bian with a strong network of per-sonal relationships and commusonal relationships and commu-nity ties, who just happens to be a truthseeking filmmaker, must be some kind of worst-case scenario for a born-again family man. When the climactic encounter finally does take place, only still photography is permitted. Russ Walton hovers onscreen like an icon, an unknown quantity, a hermetic absence whose motivations

can only be guessed at.

Having opened with a 1964 family portrait in front of the Lincoln Memorial — eerily, with their backs to the camera — the film closes with footage of that

same oversized Abe being hosed same oversized Abe being hosed down and swabbed with a mop. Having achieved visual closure, Pam Walton says in voice-over that she has gained "a deeper understanding of the complexity of family and family values ... even a kind of peace with my father." Viewers may have a harder time foregiving as Old Testament for forgiving an Old Testament-fu-eled terrorist who makes his living giving Christ a bad name, when he ought to be busy removing that beam from his eye.

Pam Walton's Family Values will be shown Saturday, June 29 (12 p.m.) at the Victoria Theatre.

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Agnes of GLAAD

Amanda Plummer as lesbian serial killer

by Robert Julian

unice is nuts - stark raving mad—and although many things may be said about Eunice, insanity is her predominant character trait. In Butterfly Kiss, director Michael Winterbottom wastes no time making this point. A very disheveled Eunice (Amanda Plummer) first appears (Amanda Plummer) first appears mumbling questions out loud, to no one in particular, as she stomps a path through the sagebrush beside a rural British highway. When she reaches a truck stop, Eunice walks up to the convenience store cashier and inquires, "Is your name Judith?" Shortly thereafter, the cashier lies behind her register, dead, with blood streaming from her head.

Down the road, just a few truck stops later, Eunice meets Miriam (Saskia Reeves), a timid cashier who takes Eunice serious-

cashier who takes Eunice serious-ly and attempts to help. When she ly and attempts to help. When she sees Eunice dousing herself with gasoline, straight from the pump, Miriam comes to her rescue. The petrol-soaked Eunice plants an unexpected, and very sexual kiss on Miriam's lips and gets herself invited back to Miriam's house for some R&R. When the women arrive, Eunice displaces Miriam's invalid mother from her bedroom so the two young women can have her big double bed. Once they are alone together, Eurice disrobes, revealing a body covered with 17 tattoos, pierced nipples, bruises, and a series of interlocking nodleged body. interlocking, padlocked body chains. Eunice, you see, is not your garden variety lesbian she is a Bible-quoting, sado-masochistic, paranoid schizo-phrenic, serial-killing sociopath. Miriam, of course, finds her en-chanting.

Profound verisimilitude

Frank Cottrell Boyce's script for Butterfly Kiss is almost existential in its approach. The author provides no information whatsoever about Eunice's past, where she has been, or how she became who she is. Boyce presents Miriam, his other main character, in much the same fashion. This courageous choice adds an element of mystery as it simultaneously increases the viewer's sense of discovery as the story unfolds. The audience must work harder to understand, and pay Frank Cottrell Boyce's script unfolds. The audience must work harder to understand, and pay close attention to the actors' portrayals because everything happens in the present tense, with no accounting for the past. In this respect, Boyce is gifted with the exceptional work of Amanda Plummer and Saskia Reeves, who render finely tuned and wonderfully complementary performances as the lovers. Their work here is so good, and so true, that the improbable circumstances of these probable circumstances of these characters' lives seem perfectly reasonable and natural.

Michael Winterbottom's di-rection is fluid and fast-paced. He rection is fluid and fast-paced. He keeps the narrative moving and, most importantly, he allows the audience ample opportunity to empathize with Eunice and Miriam — no small feat as the body count rises. He treats the love scenes between the two actresses even-handedly; Winterbottom does not sensationalize their sexual liaisons nor does he dilute ual liaisons nor does he dilute them with false modesty or recalcitrant camera angles. As these

two lower-class misfits embark upon their brief sojourn through the English countryside, Eunice and Miriam make the kind of personal connection that tran-scends both words and sexuality. This comes across only because of the strong performances and Winterbottom's direction. There is something overwhelmingly sad about Eunice's few, small self-rev-

servant and admirer. Their time together is characterized by its brevity and intensity — and heightened by that bleak back-drop known as rural England. Seamus McGarvey's cinematography serves the story well here, as he fashions a gray-on-gray palate that mirrors the emptiness of the characters' lives.

Butterfly Kiss is a film that will

Comparisons to Thelma and Louise are inevitable.

elations, possibly because they hint that Eunice — on some level — knows she's a total mess. With-out qualification or apology, Eu-nice succinctly explains to Miri-am, "Punishment's the only thing I understand."

Comparisons to Thelma and Louise are inevitable, but Don Quixote and Sancho Panza might be a more apt analogy for this coupling. Eunice is a woman on a mission, however demented, and Miriam serves as her most ardent

be talked about. It is sometimes funny, often over-the-top, and oc-casionally poignant. But some people will be unable to see past the film's violence, or the lesbian sexuality, to find a deeper mean-ing. Others will look closer; in doing so, they may find a message similar to the one expressed in Leaving Las Vegas, Mike Figgis' tale of two other star-crossed lovers. Butterfly Kiss is a difficult and downbeat little movie, but it is also an impressive piece of cinema.



Butterfly Kiss opens Friday, June 28 at the Lumiere.

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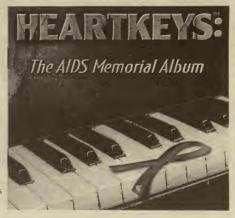
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Dusting off Dusty

by Chad Jones

Strong For You-Jeff Krassner (Identity Records)

lue-eyed soul has gone glo-riously gay. Jeff Krassner's Strong For You is a spirited, beautifully produced collection of gospel pop by way of the South-ern-fried blues. Krassner has assembled a fine lot of musicians for this first album, most of whom have played in the big leagues with the likes of Melissa h the likes of Melissa eridge, Madonna, David Byrne and Sting. Their expertise is on display in roaring horn sections, heated guitar licks and joyous choral work. Produced by Daniel Wise, Krassner's white-man soul recalls Marc Cohn, Curtis Stigers, Joshua Kadison and Michael Bolton (though Krassner is much, much better and infinitely more sincere than the latter).

Krassner had a hand in writing

all but one of the tunes in this col all but one of the tunes in this col-lection, which is mostly about love, of the lost and found vari-eties. On the ultra-gay-positive "I Hear the Angels Sing," Krassner sings, "...you remind me life can be sweet/When the world says we don't belong/So let them preach some old ancient rules/But L some old ancient rules/But I know in my heart/It's the judg-ment of fools."

Krassner turns serious on the subjects of hope in the stirring "Maybe I'm Naive" and of salvation in the soulful "How Long Do I Have to Be Strong."

The anthemic "Strong For You" is a requirer testament to

The anthemic "Strong For You" is a rousing testament to faith, and the lively "The Powers That Be" is featured in two differ-



Jeff Krasner

an extended dance mix.

Krassner will be performing at the Pride Day Celebration on Sunday, June 30 between 4 and 5 p.m. on the mainstage at the Em-barcadero. When contacted at his studio in New York, Krassner re mained elusive on the subject of his play list, but he's sure to perform the cut from this album that will send people scurrying out to snap it up: the pronouns-in-place version of "Son of a Preacher Man"

After the resurgence of the Dusty Springfield version in *Pulp Fiction*, it was only a matter of Fiction, it was only a matter of time before a gay singer would come along and snap up this lusty gem, and Krassner gives Dusty a run for her money. The song starts out quietly with only drums pulsing in the background as Krassner sings about Billy Ray, the preacher's son who liked to go out preacher's son who liked to go out walkin'. As the affair heats up and as Krassner discovers that "the only boy who could ever reach me" was little ol' Billy Ray, the band jumps in and the back-up vocalists kick into high drive. You'll never hear the song the same way after hearing this version

As far as pop music goes, Krass-ner's Strong For You is the real thing. The fact that it's a gay artist singing sturdy tunes about love, lust, loss and hope is only icing on this soulful musical cake. ▼

ART

Homo assemblage



Kevin's Kimono, by Dale Tanis

he first annual Out Loud and Proud art exhibit, a collection of 37 works by queer California artists, is on display at the Bridge Gallery through the end of June. The selected works reflect a broad range of styles and mediums, including 3-D mixed-media, photos, paintings, photo collages and cloth art. A walk through the show reflects a strong sense of lesbian and gay pride and inclusion. The sampling of pieces discussed here is intended for the same purpose.

"Entravay" by Gary, P. Styller is a traditional evalities oil of a strong sense of the same purpose.

"Entryway," by Gary P. Stutler, is a traditional realistic oil of a marble stairway, and sunny landing, while "Kevin's Kimono" and "The Kiss," serigraphs by Dale Tanis, are colorful and blatantly gay images. Feminist messages are imparted by the angry amazon in Cynthia Seawomyn's "Crucified Woman," who looks ferocious enough to enact revenge on her persecutors, despite the fact that someone managed to pin her to a cross. Claude Moller's "Better Living through Chemistry" raises the assassinated Black Panther leader Fred Hampton to mythic proportions by a sensitive arrangement of patriotic and dark colors, hollow stenciled slogan, and an elegiac

portrait of Hampton
In five well-crafted pieces, Cory W. Peeke explores issues around

page 103 ▶



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Out and loud

Guide to queer rock during Pride Weekend

by Adrian Roberts

n years pasty the onset of Gay Pride Weekend meant that there would usually be at least one token "queer rock showcase" to write about. This year, I'm happy to

with about. This year, Im nappy to say, that number has grown.

With no less than four such shows happening this weekend, and at least 16 bands lined up to perform, there's no shortage of activity for the queer rock 'n' roller.

Bring you earthly a dallow me. Bring your earplugs, and allow me to introduce to you a who's who on the queer rock scene.

Start things off early with tonight's show at the Maritime Hall, featuring San Francisco's own queen daughters of dykepunk, **Tribe 8.** Their latest album, Snarkism, is yet another acerbic mix of furious punk rock and bit-ing sarcasm. And while singer ing sarcasm. And while singer Lynn Breedlove's lyrics are often infused with a sense of humor—check out the hysterical "Tranny Chaser" or "Dead Clothed Boys" for proof—the girls keep things from getting too "ha-ha-funny" with their loud, pound-you-over-the-head musical assault.

Also on the bill is Extra Fancy, those hardcore LA boys who have the distinction of being the first rock band signed to a major label with an openly gay, HIV-positive lead singer. Brian Grillo's lyrics on Sinnerman speak directly from his experiences growing up as a gay

experiences growing up as a gay man in a world of adversity, and the intensity with which he sings them is captivating to witness— not to mention his banging on a 50-gallon oil drum.

50-gallon oil drum.

San Francisco's chief exponents of kitsch-rock, Enrique, are also on the line-up. This colorful seven-piece band brings as much flair and panache to their costumes and choreography as they do to their music, rife as it is with populity references and catchy. pop-culture references and catchy choruses, all in ample display on their debut CD, *Cut The Cheese*.

their debut CD, Cut The Cheese.

Opening the show are the Hail Marys, a blues-based hard rock band evenly divided between two dykes and two fags. Their CD Sex Child beautifully displays the powerful voice of butch singer Jackie Strano, who commands as much attention on stage as set. as much attention on stage as she

does on record.
Friday night's showcase at the Paradise Lounge promises to be quite an event as well, with seven acts spread over three stages. Headlining is Enrique once again,



Tribe 8 headlines the queer band line-up tonight at the Maritime Hall.

who will probably turn the place into a party.

into a party.
Also on the line-up is **Glue**, an energetic pop-punk band from LA. featuring the beautiful black drag queen, **Sean deLear**, on lead vocals. Chances are you've never seen a diva rock out quite like her—outrageous, sassy, and a girl who definitely knows how to

have a good time.

Also up from LA. is **Glen Meadmore**, a hillbilly-schtick
drag performance artist who has been around for years. His 1991 CD, *Boned*, may very well be the world's only queer-cabaret-country-camp album.

Speaking of country, the

page 102 ▶



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Queer rock this weekend

Thursday, June 27

Tribe 8, Enrique, Extra Fancy, the Hail Marys Maritime Hall, 450 Harrison Street. 8 p.m. \$10. 974-0634.

Friday, June 28

Enrique, Glue, Glen Meadmore, Blue Period, Holy Joe, the Kuntry Kunts, Shauna Hall Paradise Lounge, 11th & Folsom. 9 p.m. \$8. 861-6906.

Saturday, June 29

Brown-Star Edinburgh Castle, 950 Geary Street. 9 p.m. \$3. 885-4074.

Sunday, June 30

Aint, Drip Joy, Holy Joe, Gretchen Phillips, Slow Club Faster Pussycat, CW Saloon, 917 Folsom. 7 p.m. \$5. 561-9771. Extra Fancy, Stone Fox, Glue, Soul Divine Slim's, 333 11th Street. 8 p.m. \$8. 255-0333.









Verbal subterfuge

by Daniel Harris

Beyond Queer: Challenging Gay Left Orthodoxy, edited by Bruce Bawer; The Free Press, \$24.50

ruce Bawer's Beyond Queer: Challenging Gay Left Orthodoxy will serve as a rallying cry for gay conservatives, a call to arms for that beleaguered faction of alienated centrists who have long been persecuted as self-loathing homophobes unwilling to toe the party-line. This aggravating but intelligent collection of essays by such Tory gadflies as Andrew Sullivan and Jonathan Rauch represents a triumphant rejection of the left-wing homosexual's tendency to glamorize his marginality, celebrate his oppression, and revel in his status as a sexual outlaw living a reckless, if ghettoized, existence well beyond the pale of respectable society. Bawer's basic theme is that the gay movement has permitted what he considers unsavory fringe elements — most notably, his two bêtes noirs, drag queens and leathermen — to define us in the disapproving eyes of mainstream America. The time has come, he argues, for the silent gay majority — the church-going middle-of-the-roaders and the happily married DINKS (dual incomes, no kids) — to cast off the shackles of their political passivity, assert themselves in all of their unthreatening wholesomeness, and come out as dutiful believers in "God, America, and family."

in "God, America, and family."

The most frequently cited example of the way we have pandered to the stereotypes of the evangelical right is the gay pride march, which the essayists in Beyond Queer are constantly describing as nothing less than a dance of the seven deadly sins, an ill-fated photo-op in which the least representative segments of gay society are allowed to tarnish our reputation as a minority. Every year, near-naked muscle boys, their well-oiled bodies glistening in the

sun, thrust their g-string-clad pelvises into the faces of eager NBC and C-Span reporters while bearded nuns on roller skates whirl sacrilegiously by, unwitting-ly providing fodder for the smear campaigns of Jesse Helms and the Family Values Coalition. According to the conservatives in Beyond Queer, innocent misbehavior at gay pride festivities constitutes a public relations nightmare in which the so-called freaks of gay society — dykes on bikes, NAM-BLA members, hippy nudists, Radical Faeries, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence — determine how heterosexuals will perceive even the most mild-mannered of anti-subcultural conformists.

misconceptions about the decadent, one-dimensional lives of homosexuals Bawer characterizes as obsessive sexual narcissists. What could be more reductive and dehumanizing, after all, than this conservative vision of the gay man as a moral paragon who, in order to convince skeptical heterosexuals repelled by our promiscuity, must always project positive images of himself as a responsible, law-abiding citizen rather than a jaded hedonist who molests children and proselytizes on playgrounds?

Bawer and his fellow conserva-

Bawer and his fellow conservatives have formulated a politics of moral example that ultimately exerts a far more crippling influence on our ability to lead full, happy

It is one of my rights as a human being to refuse outright to be anyone's role model and to live as I see fit, as a mess, a wreck, a nosepicking slob with a cigarette in one hand and a stiff drink in the other, and not some shining example of my race, my kind.

Although Bawer and his fellow moderates are right to criticize the stranglehold of "left orthodoxy" on gay activism and to scoff at the political gridlock caused by our scrupulous adherence to the strictures of the PC, they consistently contradict the central tent of the entire book, as seen in its title, "Beyond Queer." Their major thesis is that it is dangerous to allow oneself to be consumed by one's sexuality. In the strongest possible terms, they condemn the sort of life that revolves exclusively around one's identity as a homosexual co-oped up in the ghettoes, devouring gay books and magazines, carousing at the street fairs, and prowling through the sex clubs, living from beer bust to underwear party. And yet for most of these writers, most notably for Bawer himself, the primary role of the responsible homosexual is just as restrictive as the all-embracing lifestyle they oppose. Rejecting the circumscribed existence of the full-time "queer," they propose instead that we transform ourselves into full-time image ecologists, finicky social hygienists bent on tidying up the straight majority's

lives as ordinary individuals than the sexual compulsiveness of those ghetto-dwellers who have made a 24-hour career out of cruising and bar-hopping. The authors in Beyond Queer would turn us into propaganda for the cause, lifeless pieces of walking, talking agitprop designed, not to enjoy ourselves in the same way that normal people enjoy themselves, free of social expectations, but to rebut stereotypes by constantly mugging for the omnipresent surveillance cameras of Jerry Falwell and Par Buchanan, there to record our every gaffe and faux pas. It is one of my rights as a human being to refuse outright to be anyone's role model and to live as I see fit, as a mess, a wreck, a nose-picking slob with a cigarette in one hand and a stiff drink in the other, and not some shining example of my race, my kind, an instructive representative of homosexual virtue, a pious goody-two-shoes. The image of this dehumanized cynosure is as restrictive of our ability to get "beyond" the tightly defined limits of gay life as Bawer's demonized vision of the modern "queer" who is trapped by his homosexuality.





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Period piece

lue Period is on the bill for the queer band showcase Friday night at the Paradise Lounge, and lead singer Adrian Roberts says, "We're pulling out all the stops." A self-described "freaky androgynous waif from hell," Roberts will be belting out lyrics like "Steal Modigliani" and "Cow" over the band's art-damaged dark pop music with a hardrock edge. Full disclosure: Lady Adrian also happens to be the whizkid art director here at the Bay Area Reporter.

Reporter.
"We're the kind of band that likes "We're the kind of band that liks to get dressed up for a show," Roberts concedes. For the Paradise gig, costume designer (and B.A.R. layout man) Jorge Alonso will fit the guys out in Showgirls-inspired stagewear. It's like Trent Reznor says: when you go see a band, you don't want to see some guy who looks like he just pumped gas."

Here's a lyric from "Soulless":

pumped gas."
Here's a lyric from "Soulless":
"The way that you taste is strangely/
reminiscent of what has gone before/
In a reassuring way that makes me/
feel like I am a whore." Existential,

Blue Period is: PF on keyboards, vocals by Adrian, guitarist Christo-pher Hogan, bassist Swirly Rat Jr., and drummer Steve Watkins. Watkins says the band reminds him of "Nine Inch Nails meets Tones on Tail meets Duran Duran." Cool. Whatever. All I know is, when I saw them play the Boomerang, they blew me away.

Blue Period plays this Friday, June 28th at 10 p.m. at the Paradise Lounge, 11th & Folsom. Admission is \$8. For more information, call 863-6606



Club Q Dance party for women, DJ Page Hodel. 9pm-3am Club Townsend, 177 Townsend. 985-5241.

Cremaster

Two films by Matthew Iwo films by Matthew Barney in conjunction with the current exhi-bition of his works. Fri. & Sun. at 2&4pm thru 6/30. \$7 museum admission. SFMO-MA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Easy on the Mouth Improvisational performance directed by Carol Swann. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$8-12. Luna Sea Women's Perf. Proj., 863-2989.

Ecstasy Lounge Lesbian pride party, salacious strippers, erotic environment. \$25. 8pm. 960 Harrison. 985-5252.

Fence-Sitter's Ball Bay Area Bisexual Network and Anything That Moves present dance benefit for BiNet USA. \$7-15. 9pm-2am. 270 Brannan

Foam Party Strip down to trunks, divé into suds. \$12. 9pm-4am. 314 11th St. 437-4487.

Heidi Beeler With the Dixieland Dykes +3, work-in-progress. \$5. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Hot Pants Homo New comedy that celebrates the pulp novels of the 60s. Fri. & Sat. at 8&10pm thru 7/20. \$10. Lavender Lounge, 1042 Folsom. 673-8335.

The House of Equality



Marilyn Mansfield, The Painted Lady of the Body Beautiful, performs as part of ETVC s Really Big Shew V at Kimo s Showbar. See Friday for details.

benefit for LGBT Community Center Project. \$10. 8pm. Women s Bldg., 3543 18th St. 241-1526.

If the Shew Fits ETVC's Really Big Shew V includes Emma Peel, Victoria Secret, Erin Souza, Miss ETVC 95. \$7.8LD. Doors 8, show 9pm. Kimo s Showbar, Polk & Pine. (510) 549-2665.

MasQueerAde 96 Drag/costume benefit for Coming Home Hospice. \$10 advance, \$15. 8pm. Bingo Hall, 100 Diamond. 928-7691.

Pas de Siecle:

Dancing Towards the Millen-nium, includes Julia Adam, Robert Moses Kin, the Lawrence Pech Dance Co., more. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$14-16. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Pterodactyls

Nicky Silver's play: a Main Line family faces their own extinction. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 6/29. \$16-18. Actors Theatre of SF, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

Pride Concert Lesbian/Gay Chorus, SF Winds of Freedom, Voices: Bay Area Lesbian Choral En-semble, Donna Sachet Em-press XXX. \$15-50. 8pm. Herbst Theatre. 392-4400.

Dragapella Beauty Shop Quartet schticks up the psy-chedelic Sixties. Wed.-Sun. thru 6/30 at 8pm. \$12. Josie s Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Something About Us Andrew Alty s erotic play about friendship, love, and loss. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 6/29. \$12. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972

Named Desire
Tennessee Williams classic
1947 drama. Fri. & Sat. at
8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 7/21.
\$12-15. Phoenix Theatre,
301 8th St. 621-4423.

the Water s Edge Lucinda Coxon s play: a coal miner s daughter s rise to

power. Wed.-Sun. thru 6/30, call for times. \$18-24. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

No Retreat. Rally at Castro/Market at 7pm. 522-2988.

Gay Comedy Night Karen Ripey, Hank Donat, Maureen Brownsey. \$10. 10pm. Josie s Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Girl Spot Women's dance party. \$5 til 10pm, \$7 after. V/sf, 278 11th St. 337-4962.

GOP Protest

LGBT Voices sponsors Town Mtg. to organize protest at GOP Convention (8/12-15). 2pm. Women s Bldg., 3543 18th St. 664-2057.

Jozef Walczak

Polish artist s figurative oil paintings, reception tonight, 5pm. Iguana Galleries, 536 Pacific. 989-1057.

MACT Garage Sale Benefits National Black and White Men Together. 9am. 334 Noe. 675-0201.

Naach Majuri

The Peacock Strut, dance benefits Trikone, group for lesbian, gay and bisexual South Asians. \$10. 9pm-2am. Internat I Center, 50 0ak. (408) 270-8776.

Next Wave of SF Dance features Do-minique Zeltzman, Samuel Toplary, Jessie Bie. \$5-10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Nico...My **Empty Pages** Omewanne s portrait of the German model/performer. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 7/21. \$10-12. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7978.

Pride Celebration Pre-parade event. 11am-5pm Justin Herman Plaza. 864-FREE.

Live performance featuring Antoinette Roberson, DJs Page Hodel & David Harness. \$10. 9:30pm-7am. Club Universe, 177 Townsend. 985-5241.

Puttin on the Ritz Formal dance for women, produced by Bay Area Career Women, features June Millington and the Slammin Babes. \$45 advance, \$50 door. 8:30pm-1:30am. Gift Contac Pullion, 888 Bran-Center Pavilion, 888 Bran-nan, 495-5393.

Sexy Shorts Sexy Snorts
Short plays by lesbian and gay authors. Gay men s program runs Thurs. at 8pm, Sat. at 8&10pm thru 6/29. \$12-16. New Conservatory Theater, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Special K 18 and older gay dance club. \$6 til 10pm, \$8 after. 9pm-3am. 836 Mission. 436-0409.

Tony de Carlo

Strut your stuff down Market Street Sunday in the annual Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Parade. Kicks off at 11 a.m. at 8th & Market. (Pictured: Go-Go boys on Pansy Division float.)

AIDS, gay identity, family. Reception today, 3pm. Thru 7/3. Galeria de la Raza/Stu-dio 24, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Underworld Underwear dance club. \$13. 9pm-6am. Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St. 978-9448.

Watsonville

Watsonville
World premiere of Cherr e
Moraga s play about Mexican
women, workers, believers
and survivors. Wed.-Sun. at
8pm thru 6/30. \$14-16.
Brava Theater Center, 2789
24th St. 487-5401.

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Sun

Closing Night SF Internat I Lesbian & Gay Film Fest: premiere of Nigel Finch's Stonewall. 703-8650.

Extra Fancy
Plays with Stone Fox, Glue
and Soul Divine. \$7.50-8.
8pm. Slim s, 333 11th St.
668-8860.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Pride Parade Equality and Justice For All proceeds down Market from 8th St. at 11am to the Embarcadero celebration. 864-FREE.

Linda Blair Affair Sick and Twisted Players in a benefit roast and tribute to actress, appearing live. Exor-cist look-alike contest: dress possessed. \$10-15. 7pm. Women s Bldg., 3543 18th St. 826-5358.

Living Sober Parade day dance. AA & Al-Anon mts, 3pm. Dance, 4-7pm. \$10-15. Green Room, War Mem | Bldg., 401 Van Ness. 978-2478.

Martha Wash Midnight performance at the parade afterparty at Pleasuredome. \$12. Doors 6pm. 177 Townsend. 985-5256.

Worship Service Featuring gospel music. 7:30pm. MCC/SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.



Biron Erotic portraits in photography. Thru 7/10. Moby Dick, 4049 18th St.

Cops of Stonewall Photographs by Robert F. Figueroa of NYPD officers during Stonewall anniversary. Thru 7/9. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison.

Daniel Murtagh Photography of things eter-nal, reception tonight, 7pm. Thru July. Mad Magda s, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Same Sex Swing Workshop on spins & turns for gay West Coast Swingers, taught by Steve Rockwell. 7pm. Slovenian Hall, 2101 Mariposa. 252-9000.

Tues

Ain t Misbehavin

Fats Waller musical starring the Pointer Sisters. Tues.-Sun. thru 7/21, call for times. \$32-55. Tonight at 8pm. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Appendicitis:
The removal of a seemingly useless organ, paintings by Calvin Turnwall. Reception tonight, 7pm. Cat s Grill and



We re the kind of band that likes to get dressed up for a show. Blue Period, from left to right: Christopher Hogan, PF, Steve Watkins, Adrian Roberts, Swirly Rat Jr.



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abern in America

In Our Sights:

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St. 863-1087.

Pergamon:

863-3330.

Women Look at Guns, photo exhibit, free. Thru 8/3. SF Camerawork, 115 Natoma. 764-1001.

mentary on the doomed artrock goddess. \$6. 6,8&10pm. Roxie, 3117 16th

The Telephos Frieze from the Great Altar exhibition, thru 9/8. \$7. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th & Clement.

Exhibition of 400 objects created by legendary Russian jeweler, thru 7/28. \$9.50. deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. 750-3614.

Pierced Hearts and

A Century of Drawings for Tattoos exhibit, Tues.-Sun. thru 8/18. Also: The Addi-tion and Subtraction of Skin, works by Dorothy Cross and David Ireland, and The Studio Museum in Harlem. \$4. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Shari Cohen

Photographer discusses erotic

lesbian photo book Nothing But the Girl, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Cas-tro. 431-0891.

New coalition of young queers to travel to GOP Convention in San Diego. Meets every Tues. at 7pm. Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez.

Two gay artists: paintings by J. Martin Rodriguez, sculp-ture by Jeffrey Dugan. Thru 7/24. Bucheon Gallery, 355

Squirm

431-2228 x269.

Haves, 863-2891.

Vita Nova

Frank Pietronigro Bay Area artist unveils Equality and Justice For All, print honoring lesbian and gay diversity, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 777-8242.

Kira Od Fine art bronzes and illustra-

tions of erotic male nudes and

The Swedish Ballet 1920-1925, exhibition about the avant-garde dance co. Thru 9/29. \$7. Palace of Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

Steve Martin s comedy fea-turing the NY. Tues.-Sun. thru 7/28. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. The-atre on the Square, 450 Post.

the Lapin Agile

naked animal/man hybrids.

Thru 7/12. Wings Gallery, 4077 18th St. 864-3456. Paris Modern:

Pleasuredome

Independence Day celebration, DJ Eddie X. \$7. Doors 9pm. 177 Townsend. 985-5256



David Cannon Dashiell

Works on paper by the late artist, incl. sketches for Queer Mysteries. Thru 7/13. Rena Bransten Gallery, 77 Geary. 982-3292.

Family Picnic Gay and lesbian families 4th of July picnic and convert, free. 1pm. Yerba Buena Gardens.

Glenn Ligon New work: struggles of cultural and sexual identity. Thru 8/25. \$7. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Party
David Dillon s play: 7 gay

men play truth-or-dare. Wed.-Sun. thru 7/28, call for times. \$20-25. Tonight at 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Soul Suckers from Outer Space SF Mime Troupe s free shows in the parks begin. Thurs.-Sun. at 2pm. Mission Dolores Park.

Threads

Performance and mixed media installation by Leslie Bauer runs Thurs.-Sat. thru 7/6. Collision, 417 14th St. 431-4074.

Tom Jones

Henry Fielding s comic mas-terpiece, adapted for the stage by Peter Jeffries. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 7/14. \$15-22. 450 Geary Stu-dio Theatre. 673-1172.

Visual Aid

3rd annual Grantee Exhibition. Wed.-Sat. thru 8/3. Space 743, 743 Harrison. 777-8242

What Are

What Are
Tuesdays Like?
Asian AIDS Project presents
Victor Bumbalo s play about
living with AIDS. Thurs.-Sat.
at 8pm thru 7/6, & 3pm on
7/6-7. \$5-7. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

tate me, baby! Linda Ofair heads for the ceiling in this scene from Exorcist, to be presented in the Sick and Twisted Players-tribute *Linda* Affair, Sunday at the Women's Building, See the listing,

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA

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Pride Week Dinner Specials

Grilled center-cut Pork Chops with pineapple sweet & sour sauce, chef's rice or mashed potatoes......9.50

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All-American Meatloaf with mashed potatoes and gravy.....

PRIME RIB with baked potato and 9.95 creamy horseradish.....

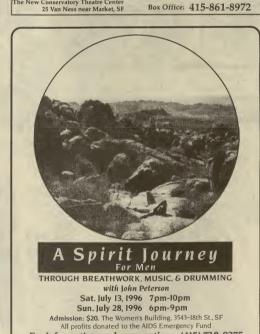
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Dinner 5:30pm - 9:00pm
8 Sat Itil' 10:00pm • Closed on Sundays 'The food's so good we want to tell everyone." Barbara Lane, *SF Weekly*

A crude success

Superfag by Daniel Curzon; IGNA Books, San Francisco, \$9.95

n his latest comic novel, Superfag, local author Daniel Curzon sets himself the irredeemable goal of offending everyone. He

sets himself the irredeemable goal of offending everyone. He succeeds all too well.

In the novel, we accompany Superfag, the half-divine offspring of a heavenly creator, on his mission to rid the world of homophobia. Unlike most style-queen superheroes, though, Superfag's only costume is a lavender towel that he wears as a cape.

But wardrobe is the least of his problems. Superfag is more concerned with the persecution, cruelty and stupidity he sees on earth. Rather than an adventure story, Superfag's tale is a travelogue of scenes of shocking injustice and outrageous stereotyping. While stumbling around naively promoting the joys of all carnal pleasure, the licentious Superfag confronts gang-banging police officers, inclerant religious fundamentalists, and all sorts of authorities, besting these half-wits with his three-quarters wit.

Or, at least we're told he does. In one scene, Superfag is insulted by a military man. After several hours, he returns to confront the officer: "Then he went back and said a very witty thing to the major. What it was has not been recorded by history, but by all reports it turned the major tongue-tied and pale. 'I guess I settled his hash!' Superfag said when he left. "Tell your wife a fag bested you in clever wordplay!' he yelled."

Superfagis a side through of excepted. The story contains a second of the superfagis as if the process of the process of the superfagis as if the process of the superfagis as if the process of the superfagis as if the process of the process of the superfagis as if the process of the superfagis as if the process of the process of the superfagis as if the process of the process of the superfagis as if the process of the process of the superfagis as if the process of the superfagis as if the process of the superfagis as if the process of the process of the superfagis as if the process of the superfagis as if the process of the superfagis as if the

velled.

Superfag is a ride through a cesspool. The story reminds me of the "hell house" that some fundamentalists build at Halloween to

the "hell house" that some fundamentalists build at Halloween to showcase the unrepentant homosexual dying of disease. Similarly, in Superfag, everyone is a cliché.

In the story (and on the book's back cover), the author identifies the real enemy as "the Satire Police." As best I can tell, the Satire Police are the ideologues who criticize certain attitudes and ideas as politically incorrect, and who act as barriers to those (like the author) who have the balls and the steely-eyed clarity to call a shovel a shovel. However, those seeking to uphold standards are not necessarily the enemy of the forces of liberality. The Satire Police do not serve only to drag free-thinkers down from going over-the-top; sometimes they uphold a certain floor of decency in the debate.

In Superfag, there is no debate, only persecution and loss. There is no one to like, no one to root for. The novel is an unnecessary trek through a noxious swamp of unpleasantries. Unfortunately, the author mistakes sarcasm and parody for satire, cliche for insight, and licentiousness for freedom. But, to the author's credit, Superfag succeeds at what it sets out to do: shock, outrage, disgust and disturb. For that reason, it is a crude and disagreeable success.

—Kent Mannis

-Kent Mannis

Minutiae recalled

by Robert Julian

A Boy Named Phyllis by Frank DeCaro; Viking Press, \$22.95

rank DeCaro's A Boy Named Phyllis is a curious autobiography, offered somewhat prematurely by this 34-year-old queer journalist. The bulk of De-Caro's memoir covers the period caros memoir covers the period from his New Jersey birth through his graduation from high school and, although the author fre-quently foreshadows an adult-hood of cross-dressing fabulousness, he never delivers this latter-

day story in print.

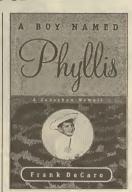
The first half of *Phyllis* introduces the author's friends, family, and New Jersey environs in excruciating detail. In fact, the author is a virtual Proust of the superficial. In this first-person narrative, DeCaro describes his Italian-American relatives via a plethora of quirky idio syncrasies that never quite approx imate true characterization. In the process, he reduces his all-important familial ties to stereotype by focusing on what his relatives are, where they went, what they wore, and how they accessorized.

In the book's second chapter, DeCaro tells us that his grand-

mother "discovered polyester double-knit pantsuits in white or salmon, and she and my mother would bring them home from an outlet store called Knit Studios like they were Dior couture. She was a brown-eyed vision with coarsely beautiful white hair, gelled a bit with Alberto VO5 and given a bluish cast by White Minx,

a rinse that came in a silver-gray plastic bottle." In case the reader has ever doubted the concept of manifest destiny, such doubts may quickly be erased upon reading that DeCaro's post-graduate occupation was that of fashion writer for *The Detroit News.*A Boy Named Phyllis wears out its welcome rather quickly by

its welcome rather quickly by virtue of the author's inability to either transcend the minutiae of either transcend the minutiae of his early years or to employ the details in such an insightful way as to construct a truly archetypal tale. The book cries out for a strong editorial hand that might have helped the author shape his memories into something more meaningful. By employing what is essentially a book-of-lists style. DeCaro's Italian-American relatives become almost indistinguishable from one another, and his coming out story fails to resonate with any depth of feeling. With its glib, self-conscious, hol-



low tone, A Boy Named Phyllis is destined to be recalled fondly only by members of the DeCaro family, who will, no doubt, be thrilled to see their outfits, hairstyles, and automobiles memorialized in



Stone Fox plays a post-Pride parade show at Slim's on Sunday night.

Queer rock

■ page 97

Kuntry Kunts will be playing up-stairs at the Paradise all night.

stairs at the Paradise all night. These four dykes proudly pro-claim they "put the 'cunt' back in 'country." Also upstairs will be singer-guitarist Shaunna Hall.

Holy Joe is on the bill as well. Led by the gravelly-voiced Billy Valentine, and featuring ex-4 Non-Blondes bassist Christa Hillhouse, the band churns out intense white-trash rock 'n' roll.

Opening the whole star-stud-

Opening the whole star-stud-ded event will be the band I sing with, **Blue Period**. At the risk of sounding like a shameless plug, let's just say that we're a darkly melodic rock band fronted by a bisexual androgynous freak. And, oh yeah, we do a punk rock version of Olivia Newton-John's

"Have You Never Been Mellow?"
Saturday night is a quiet night for queer rock fans—the calm befor queer rock fans—the calm be-fore the storm, so to speak. Hence, you might want to go to the Edin-burgh Castle to check out Brown-Star, the self-described "quiet-core" band led by Moon trent. Sunday is the big day, of course, and in the afternoon, a few rock

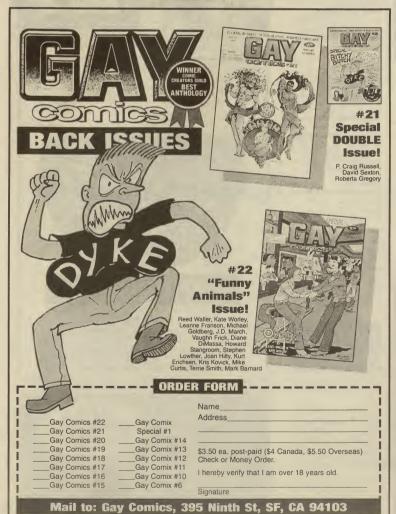
bands will be gracing the main stage of the parade celebration area, including Enrique, Extra Fancy, and **Drip Joy. DJ Downtown Donna** has called Drip Joy her favorite up-and-coming dyke band, and it's no surprise that this band seeking another is playing at hard-rocking quartet is playing at Faster Pussycat that night, along with Holy Joe, **Gretchen Phillips**, Slow Club (Tribe 8 guitarist Leslie Mah's other band), and Aint, which is Donna's favorite unsigned San Francisco band. It's been a long time since I've seen them, but

long time since I've seen them, but I do recall thinking that they sounded a bit like AC/DC as led by an angry dyke wielding a guitar.

The other queer band showcase going on Sunday night is at Slim's, with Extra Fancy, Glue, Soul Divine, and the ever-fabulous Stone Fox. Linda Perry's Rockstar Records has just released Rockstar Records has just released their self-titled second album, and damn if these women (and one man) aren't poised on the edge of stardom. Not only do they have ready-for-MTV looks and a ready-for-MTV looks and a charismatic stage presence, but they've also got killer rock songs like "Coke Whore." These local he-roes may not be bona fide rock stars yet, but their day is coming. Be warned. ▼



Drip Joy plays at Faster Pussycat at the CW Saloon on Sunday night





Taut thriller

by Deborah Peifer

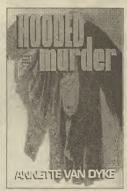
The Search by Melanie McAllester; Naiad, \$10.95

don't have children, so until I read *The Search* I could only imagine what it might be like imagine what it might be like to lose a child to kidnappers. Now I feel that I know. Melanie McAllester's second novel (her first, *The Lessons*, which I have not read, was published by Seal in 1994) is a terrifying look at the horrors of child abduction.

Elizabeth Mendoza (nicknamed Tenacity) is a heat con who layes.

Tenacity) is a beat cop who loves her work. Elizabeth's willingness to take risks unnerves her associates, but her tenacity earns their respect. When her ex-lover's daughter disappears, Elizabeth learns the real appears, Elizabeth learns the real meaning of fear. She discovers quickly that ordinary police work will not rescue the child. In a mo-ment both touching and empow-ering, she decides to leave the force and go out on her own to find the child and stop the child stealers.

McAllester is a former cop, so the book's police procedures ring true throughout. She has a re-markable skill for creating believ-able characters (the kidnapped child, Kelsey, is as credible a child as I have seen) and making us care about what happens to them. The about what happens to them. The action of the novel takes place across the Western Hemisphere, but McAllester gives us just enough information to stay on track, with not a word of filler. The Search is a suspenseful, thought-provoking, entertaining (yes, that too) novel, one I recommend highly. I warn you, though, it will also make you think. ▼



by Deborah Peifer

Hooded Murder by Annette Van Dyke; Naiad, \$10.95

lassic Greek tragedy had more than a few rules, but the one that gave rise to the importance of the messenger role was the requirement that all violations. lence happen off-stage. The mes-senger got to play all the really

juicy descriptive bits, and could

juicy descriptive bits, and could emote his (no women on-stage in 500 B.C.) little brains out.
What worked splendidly for Greek tragedy, however, is considerably less compelling in a 20th-century murder mystery. Hooded Murder's author Annette Van Dyke not only keeps all the violence off-page, she also keeps most of the action off-page as well.

Hooded Murder takes place at Burford College, a private school in the Midwest with a tendency to homophobia, misogyny and general nastiness. All the bad stuff is reported by our hero, Jessie Batelle, who decides, after the first of several murders at her new school, to

eral murders at her new school, to act the part of the amateur detec-tive. Her sleuthing, however, seems to consist solely of making obser-vations in a notebook, observa-tions which she does not share with the reader. Ho-hum.

Jessie has problems with teach

ing a required course in women's studies, but we never see the class or experience the difficulties. She has trouble with the administra-tion and fellow faculty members, or so she reports. Even the sex scenes, except for a bit of low-key tribadism, occur off-page. Come on now, the reader should

be able to see something happen. Lesbians are being whacked at an unseemly rate, and yet no one seems to be looking at the situation from the hate-crimes angle. And frankly, the lesbians left standing after the carnage are remarkably unmoved by the apparent danger around them. Perhaps their upsettedness happens, you guessed it, off the page. That is certainly where your reading should occur.



The Kiss, by Dale Tanis (detail)

Art show

◆ page 96

sexuality, repression and social conditioning. "Maturity" depicts two children with their eyes scratched out and childish words scratched out and childish words for genitalia etched on their bodies, overlaying prints of two adults with eyes blocked out against adult words for genitalia. Thus we have weenie vs. schlong, and boobies and thingy vs. knockers and slit. Childish cute words evolve into harder adult words. The effect is prohibitive and alienating.

Daphne Scholinksi's "Patient," an intense mixed-media painting

an intense mixed-media painting in blacks, whites and reds, shows a dripping figure clutching its head in a vast white ground. A scrawled, poetic text accompanying the work begins with the words "I'm Not Crazy." The paint-ing's frightening, asylum-like feel is actually grounded in the artist's own history — Scholinski spent part of her adolescence in a psych ward because, says the artist, she "looked too masculine." Part of her therapy consisted of learning

how to wear make-up.

Next year, says Abigail Linfert,
the show's organizer, artists and
viewers alike can hope for a bigger space and even more pieces.

Out Loud and Proud is up through June 30 (Wed. 3-6 p.m., or by appointment) at the Bridge Gallery, 689 Bryant St. (call 267-1866 for information). Proceeds from the show benefit Community United Against Violence (CUAV), which assists victims of hate crimes. CUAV's Crisis Line is 415-333-HELP.



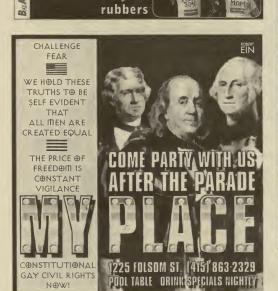














Desert/Plains Drummer winners (I to r): Lee Zirkle, first runner-up; Rick Noss Mr. Desert/Plains Drummer '96, and Eric Boyle, second runner-up on Saturday, June 22, at Club Max in Omaha.

Leather pride in Omaha, Hayward and San Francisco

by Mister Marcus

here's a lot to be proud about
not only this week but last
week and for the next 26
weeks and beyond. Eleven of the
12 Bare Chest Calendar contest
winners showed up at the SF-Eagle
to compete for the cover of the '97
calendar last Thursday, June 20.
On Friday and Saturday June 21. On Friday and Saturday, June 21 and 22, at the Turf Club in Hayward, they chose the '96 Alameda County Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy, and on Saturday night at the fabulous Max in Omaha, Dustin Logan and Bob Ewing staged the 1996 Desert/Plains Mr. Drummer contest.

There were winners and lots of pride all around, which is carrying over into this weekend when

thousands will take to the main drag of San Francisco to celebrate the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people every-where. Loads of tourists are al-ready here for the big parade and bash afterward on the Em-barcadero and all around the

The Northeast Mr.
Drummer contest that Drummer contest that was supposed to be held in New York on Sunday, June 23, was postponed because there was only one contestant! Unbelievable. The date will be rescheduled; you'll be the first to know when

Leather Daddies Tom Rodgers and Philip Turner joined with for-mer Mr. Watering Hole Richard Faust to judge the Bare Chest guys, and they admitted it wasn't easy. Mr. September '97 Mike Wieland of San Diego won the cover spot, and there was an unprecedented three-way tie for the runner-up

spot (and the back cover) be-tween Mr. May Juan Carlos, Mr. August Lynn McCameron and Mr. October Mike Rand. By Saturday afternoon, famed photogra-pher Jim Wigler had al-ready captured Mike in

ready captured Mike in color for the cover.

Todd Kepus was chosen the Alameda County Drummer Boy on Friday night, and on Saturday, after Marcus Wonacott, Danny Burris, David Carranza, Keith Truitt and Gregory Larouxe submitted their scores to Lil Cooper (tally mistress), Eric Keith took the Mr. Alameda County Drummer title, with Timothy Alan the runner-up. Keith will compete for Mr. Northern Cali-fornia Drummer next month.

Hot dudes from throughout the 11-state region covered by the Desert/Plains Drummer title converged in Omaha on Saturday to witness the four aspirants go through the process. The pre-judging was on Saturday morning. The two contestants from Kansas City were absent, but the show went on anyway. Mr. Logan emceed the soiree, and judges Bob Ewing (Omaha), Jim Sterba (Des Moines), Mr. Drum-mer David Walker & Mrs. Drummer David Anderson (Colorado Springs), Jeannie Moe (Omaha), Johnny Grey (Dallas), Chris Reynolds (Las Vegas) and myself had the awesome task of picking a winner. Mr. Desert Plains Drummer '95 Jim Gau also par-

Rick Noss represented Omaha; Lee Zirkle represented Reno; and Eric Boyle and Mike Warner rep-resented St. Louis. They went through the customary interview, jock attire, Q&A, speech and a fantasy. Each was well-thought out and executed with precision. Rick Noss' Wizard of Oz fantasy was hilarious and brought the house down. Such a butch Tin Man! The speeches were prerecord-



Mr. Alameda County Drummer '96 Eric Keith (right) with Drummer Boy Todd Kepus at the Turf Club in Hayward last Saturday, June 22

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, June 27

Mr. San Francisco Drummer contest at Daddy's at 2000. Applications available at the bar now! Conie see Omar pass his SF sash to a successor. I hear some study study will do a drag number!

Friday, June 28

The grandest ball of them all: Phoenix Uniform Club's Leather & Military Ball in the Green Room of the War Memorial Bldg., 2000-2400. Uniforms galore, Gail Wilson & City Swing, lavish dinner, cocktails, camaraderie and men from around the world. Tix \$40 advance\\$50 door – available at Mr. S, Leather Masters (San Jose), Leather Zone and Worn Out West. Don't miss this one!

Saturday, June 29

The 15 Association's monthly party; blues festival at the RushRiv today and tomorrow; "Pulse" at Club Universe; pride parade in Copenhagen.

Sunday, June 30

Our big day! The parade kicks off at 1100 and the Women's Motorcycle Contingent leads with (1) Independents; (2) Clean & Sober; (3) The Sirens; (4) Hell's Belles; (5) Helmet Crew; (6) Artemis

Club; (7) Athena Club; (8) Independent Harleys; (9) Wild Irises; (10) BACW; and (11) Kindred Spirits, the group that includes men bikers! You know the

rest of the agenda for today!

Martha Wash at Pleasuredome after the pa-Martna wash at reasureuothe after the parade; Real Bad VII dance party for \$20 advance/\$25 door. Stormy Leather's "Jesus Explosion" at the DNA Lounge for \$8 advance/\$10 door and a fashion show. Fetish dress required.

Monday, July 1

Deadline to sign up for Cal Eagles' July 12-24 weekend run to Saratoga Springs.

Friday, July 5

SF Rubber Corps fetish party begins at 2100 at their new location. Call 552-7975 for invite and lo-

Saturday, July 6

Defenders \$6 beer bust at the Lone Star Saloon this afternoon, with \$1 hot dogs.

Sunday, July 7

Kairos House hosts Eagle beer bust, 1600-1900, for \$8, with food and cruising galore.



A first! There was a three-way tie for the Bare Chest Calendar's back cover between (I to r) Mr. May Juan Carlos, Mr. August Lynn McCameron and Mr. October Mike Rand last Thursday, June 20, at the Eagle.

ed on video and played on three dozen TV screens in the Max's leather section. In between speeches by visiting dignitaries, entertainment by Monica West and the opening number with IML first runner-up Mark Norton brought the bourse down Ves brought the house down. Yes, leather is alive, well, innovative and exciting in the Desert/Plains

region.
When all the votes were tallied by Dick ("The Legs") Brown – and stage momma Cindy Book out and den mother "Blake" were thanked along with countless others – the winners were announced: Mr Desert/Plains Drummer was Rick Noss; first runner-up, Lee Zirkle; and second



Mike Wieland of San Diego, Mr September on the 1997 Bare Chest Calendar, won the cover spot for this year's edition. The calendar should go on sale a week before the Folsom Street Fair.

runner-up, Eric Boyle. It was an amazingly well-paced show that started on time and ended on time. All this plus the introduction of Omaha's newest leather clubs, LEO (Leather Engineers of Omaha) and WELT (Women of Educated Leather Tactics) Wonderful hospitality in the Desert/Plains Drummer region, and everyone had a great time Good show, Dustin and Bob!

The Leather Pride Float (a col-

Larkin on Sunday at 1030. Motor-cycle escorts are needed. Your ma-chine should be water-cooled, and bring your driver's license and proof of insurance. Also sun screen no. 30! It's our big day, so come on down and celebrate as

much as you can.
Sad news on my answering
machine upon mv return from
Omaha. Greg Mills of Los Angeles, a member of the Warriors MC, passed away on Friday June 2



IML judges clowning during the judging session (top to bottom): Jose Ucles, IML Larry Everett and former IMs.L Amy Marie Meek. Amy on

laboration of Daddy's and the SFlaboration of Daddy's and the SF-Eagle) is being built even as you read this. There will be a work party this Friday and Saturday, June 28 and 29, 1100, on the Eagle June 28 and 29, 1100, on the tagle patio, to do the finishing touches. Remember, the sponsors state only those who worked on the float will be allowed to ride on it! The Leather Pride float (no. 178) contingent will assemble on McAllister St. between Hyde &

The promised info on his memo-The promised into on his memorial service failed to materialize by my deadline. Greg was an avid biker and won the Rider of the Year at our Motorcycle Awards on more than one occasion. A mild mannered gentleman, he was well-respected in both Northern and Southern California biking circles. Any update on his memorial service will be conveyed to you as soon as I get the details. ▼











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PARTING GLANCES

SFO-DFW 5/23 AA 7:30AM Flight Me: dark hair, glasses, grn shirt. You: 2 rows behind me, long blond hair. How was your trip? 1401.

Mission Street Carnival 5/26
You: shoulder length hair, in leather jacket, white jeans. Me: long hair, Asian w/girlfriend. Can't stop thinking about your eyes. It was my birthday. Make my wish come true!!
1402.

World Gym Saturday June 1 Enjoyed our late-afternoon, post-gym game of car tag. Me: in my red truck, you (with friend) in your bright blue sedan. A follow-up game of touch tag, perhaps?

1403.

5/21 Univ. Ave, Palo Alto, 11AM Seeking handsome young gentleman (GWM) who held the door for me at Burger King. Me; young, GAM, in business attire. We couldn't stop looking at each other. Let's meet again. 22 1404.

Cute Smile At N'Touch, 5/30 Lots of eye contact, smiles when you (Asian, T-shirt, blue jeans, were trying to leave w/a friend (11sh), but I (WM, blond, black jacket & jeans) was too shy to get up from my stool in the corner & say Hi!
☐ 1405.

Floorcraft Nursery 6/3 1PM
You: T-shirt & jeans, very sexy. I was in a pink shirt & tie. You were having luck, I wasn't. I loved your lavenders...and more. Call me. 2 1406.

Carlton/Clayton, Jan. Land's End In the rain You drive white Mazda. Sorry I missed your calls. Please call again!! "Kragin Auto." 2 1407.

Folsom Gulch-Saturday In March You: cute, black guy w/moustache. Me: white guy w/ mustache. I keep thinking of you. As you left, you picked up BAR. Let's get together again...it was hot. 120 1408.

get together again...it was hot. 12 1408.

UAL #647 Frm Chicago IML 5/28
You: blond, red T-shirt, in 1st class. Me:
dk crew cut, grn flight jacket. We both
caught each other looking. The man I was
w/was just a friend. Very interested!
1409.

T. Timm, I Can't Find U-Help!
Lost touch, and I miss you. I moved to SF
in Dec. 95, wish I could find you! I hope
you're well & happy...Please call!! Dean.
22 1501.

After 45 Minutes Waiting 4-U
Outside, I went back in to find you where I
left you (2 PMIsh). You gave yoursel fivil
ing, though you were so thick as to barely
clear the hole. I gave you my number.
What are you waiting for? Call me.

1502.

Civic Ctr BART 6/9 11:30 AM Sat Me: black, male, brown leather jacket, glasses. You: white, glasses, sandals, back pack. We both smiled. Said, "You were going to Fremont, slept on train." Let's meet & talk. 12 1503.

17th Valencia-Sculptor
You: "Sexy/handsome" sculptor! Me:
dat. "Sexy/handsome" sculptor! Me:
dumerous times. Too shy to speak. Think
about you often. Looked for you over &
over. Pls call. 12 1504.

Thurs June 6 Fillmore At Fell You In green Jeep. Me in maroon Taurus waiting for light. We talked & you said you wish you were outside playing, me too Let's play in the sun together. 22 1505.

Ben, The Edge, Sunday 6/9 5:00
I've always said I'm not interested in guys
my age, 48, or size, 5'6', 145#. I was
wrong. I was withe only two women in the
bar & Introduced myself as we left. I'm
still thinking about you.

6/8 Sat Stonestown Mall 5:30 PM
We talked on the escalator. You asked me
that my sunglasses are Gaultier or not.
Love to chat w/you. Please call!! Me:
GAM w/hive.can \$\infty\$ 1507

6/3AM Alaska Air Tix Agent-SF0 Me: 6AM, first in line, 1st class counter 36, suit, tan, muscular. You: blond, blue yes, tan, handsome, good body. Exchanged smiles. Want to meet ASAP.

Embarcadero YMCA
We met mid May at the Embarcadero
YMCA. You were the cute guy in the
wheelchair. I was the skinny guy w/dark
hair, beard, & glasses. I would like to see
you again. 12 1509.

Eddie At Eros
We met Tuesday, May 28. You: UCB student. Me: impressed, eager to adore your beauty again, Your phone is disconnected. Still have my number? Tell me how to find you. 22 1510.

101 South 6/13-7AM
You: dark green BMW. Me: red Miata.
Burlingame exit. How about dinner? 12
1601.

Karaoke-Lyons Rest, Millbrae
Marty, you were w/friends, I was manager
there. We finally met, I cannot stop thinking about you. You: from Hayward. I
would love to get together, pls call, Tim.
22 1602.

Pasquas Sat Eve 10ish 6/15
You Andrew? Latin? Fine! Me: Caucasian, leather jacket, black shirt.
Thought you were wboyfriend. My friend said you weren't. I want to go out w/you!

Brad-United Air Hawaii to SFO on 5/5. You are a banker I am a pharmacist & live in the South Bay. Want to see you more. 12 1604.

Gay Buddhist Group
Your your name's David, a gdlkng Italian
w/a warm, beautiful smile. Me: handsome,
blond, in my 30's. I have a heavy crush on
you, and need to talk. 22 1605.

The Cafe & Detour
I saw you at both on Thursday. Lots of eye contact. Me: Latin, shy & match book in hand. I was wfriend, long curly hair.
Please call! Let's talk.

1606.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Love/Bliss Are You The One?
Masc, steady, WM, seeks masc, ready
WM. Me: Brr/Brn, 31, 5'10", 165#,
HIV+, handsome & fit, into arts, hiking,
sex, travel, Zen. You: professional, inventive, blond, hairy, usually top. 12 1410.

Sizzling Summer
Attractive GWM, 28, 6'2", 190#, brown hair, in relationship looking for summer adventure. Enjoys massage, beach, hiking & fine dining. 22 1411.

Asian Attractive
Why can't it wait? Hot, sexy, gdlkng,
5'6", 156#, 30 yo, HIV-, looking for friendship, 25-45. Call me, I'm waiting for you! № 1412.

Looking For Big & Thick Handsome, GBM, med 40's, 5'9 1/2", 163#, in good shape, HIV-, seek GWM, 48 to 65, w/a big thick cock to lay back & enjoy oral service for hour.

12 1413.

Wild & peaceful. Lady T Irons in the fire. It must be magic. Robbery, Starchild, Emerald City. Naked to the world. Ivory, BM, HIV+, seek WM/LM, 30's, for a passion play. 181414.

Looking For You GM, Italian, looking for Hispanic/Latin male, 35-50 for fun, good sex, & possible relationship. 'I'm a young looking 53, 5'11'', 175#, in good shape, HIV-, waiting for your call.

12 1415.

Seattle GBM Needs A Lover I'm 6', 240#, sincere, looking for nonsmoker, HIV-, bottom GM, to relocate to Seattle. I like movies, music, sports, & intimacy. Please respond.

1416.

2416

Clean-Cut Recreational Nudist CWM, 37, 155#, 6′, bld/hz, balding, HIV-, NS, ND, monogamous, home body seeks GWM or GLM (28-42), dark/brown hair, NS/ND, HIV-, fit, conservative, sensitive, gentle, clean shaven, recreational nudist. 22 1417.

Big-Butted Asian Wanted Horny Italian needs serious help w/load. I'm 5'6", 150#, br/br, 34 yo. UB: Asian, 20-40, non-buffed, no swimmer's build, n piercings. Ordinary blue collar guys a +. Thanks loads! ☎ 1418.

Body Positive
Wanna meet hot, healthy, HIV+, gym
boys that are single? We do exist! If you
wish to meet, date, romance, or just play
w/o fear, call to find out about this social.

122 1419.

Masculine Muscular & Mustache Great hairy chest, big arms, beefy body, short cropped brown hair, nice dick, down to earth, 42 yo, 5111", 1804", for similar GWM likes affection tit play versatile HIV+. 122 1420.

Life Is A Trip

And I'm seeking someone w/whom to share navigational duties & help watch out for potholes & bandits. Me: middle-aged, QWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, light smoker. You: slender, bright, creative.

1421.

Oral Connection

I'm hung, horny, hungry for hot head & real conversation. 5'9', 160#, brr/blu, beard, 54, intelligent, imaginative, professional, You could be younger, hairry, should be hot bright, inventive, sexy.
1422.

Special Relationship Desired
By this 29 yo, GWM, professional in SF.
Me: monogamous, sense of humor, easy
going, 5'11", 210#, br/bl, HIV- Enjoy
being at home. Race/looks less important
than personality/values. 12 1423.

GAM HIV+ Wanted! GWM, 46, 6', 175#, healthy top seeks GAM for LTR. I'm into sailing, gardening, & quiet evenings w/ my guy. Let's date & see what happens. Call me! 1 12 12424.

Dad Sks Slave Boy Serious HIV+ Dad is 41, 6'2", 198#, Drk hair, hzl eyes, gdlkng, butch hairy mustache. Boy must be gdlkng & know how to treat a man. 122 1425.

Big Load?
Gets even bigger w/my succulent technique. Meat a relative detail; your giant load makes you king! Caution; habit forn ing! - Yet nothing to lose but your bigger load! \$21426.

Attractive Middle-Eastern
With slightly sinister look & soft brown eyes, 38 yo, 5'8", 150#, accent, somehow shy—however w/Wild fantasies, self educated, seeks strong, gdlkng, HIV-, for?

1427.

Low Fat Bear GWM, professional, bm/blu, 185#, 5'10' looking for thin, tall, fair skinned GWM, 25-45 yo, or someone close. Interest: biking, dancing, music, science fiction, what are yours? 22 1428.

HIV, Black, 160#, 5'10"

Slim build, healthy, low key, never one for bar pick-ups, cruising scene, or casual sexual encounters. Attracted to lean build guys forty or under, light blond hair A + +, thinning or no hair also a + - I'm warm, loving, caring.

1229.

larbie Can Keep Ken Male human seeks same. 1522. East Bay HIV+ Top Wanted
Must have dark hair, brown eyes, mustache. HIV+, GWM, 34, brown/blue, 6′,
180#, handsome, passive, in Concord
area. Needs boyfriend. LTR w/Capricorn
or Virgo smoker. 1430.

Daddy Seeks Oral Baby Boy Affectionate, muscular, CWJM "Leather Daddy", 38, 5'8', 165#, big cock; seeks thin, smooth, orally fixated "Baby Boy" under 35 to keep well fed by sucking cock, nipples, pacifiers, & more. NS/ND. Sincere & caring.

1462.

Turnons-Full Leather-Tall Boots
Sloppy kisses, smiles, honesty, safe see,
mild SM, hirsute men. WM, well
groomed, good body, versatile Dad type
seeks same or Italian over 40. Me: 39,
160#, balding, HIV., masculine. 102
1511

Chita Seeks Same GWM, 28, 5'11", 175#, seeks GWM under 30 for dinling, dancing, long walk & exploration. Sense of humor a must! Serious replies please! New in SF.

1512.

Asian Top
I'm a very handsome Asian 27, 5', 115#,
HIV. seeking GWM only HIV-, 19-35, for
friendship or fun. NS/ND, please be cleanshave. Thanks.

1513.

Generation X Guy Sought 20's, 5'6'', toned, buzz cut, body piercing, boyish, gdikng, into alternative rock, new age culture, spirituality, seeks others w/similar interests for friendship or more, no flakes need to apply.

■ 1514.

Jewish Lover Wanted
In love w/being in love? Me too! Looking
for someone down-to-earth, no hype or attitude. Me: HIV+, 6'4", macs, hairy
chest. You: HIV+, under 35, smooth, in
shape.

12 1515.

Attractive Latino 25 I'm 5'7", 170#, dark features, some facial hair, smooth body, student. Seeking Latin or Whites, 25-35, for friendship maybe more. 12 1516.

Really Nice N. Bay Guy ISO assertive topman who loves people, arts & other simple pleasures. I enjoy these, and my successful art carner. Me tall, attr. btm, goatee, hairy, 30's. Your similar top. Us: great times, poss. LTR. 1517.

Like A Hoover
You suck wiforce; your throat a deep well gushing, your furry butt massaging, my 8", 8# of writhing funk. 12 1518.

GWM/24/5'8"/Blu/Brn Sks Rollins Look alike for possible LTR. Intelligence a must. Good personalities only. Me: Into music, movies, books, ard, and...oh yeah, the beach (ha, ha). ♀ 1519.

GWM Hairy Stashed Contractor Seeking masculine, WM, 32-42, who like camping, Hot Springs, Sierra, travel, sense of humor who values honesty loyalty, trust & hot romantic man sex under the stars this summer.

1520.

GWM/Late 50's, 5'6", 154# blu/brn, stache, ave gdlks, HIV+, masc, vers top, good shape. ISO GWA/LM romantic, vers, masc bitm, ht same as me/wt in prop, 35-45 or so? HIV+, ave equip & looks, & good shape. Poss LTR ■ 1521.

Straight...Except In Bed? Handsome, masculine, E. Bay WM top, 47, 67, 185#, It brown buzz, clean shaven, HIV., NS, seeking similar, younger (26-36), clean cut, HIV., very masculine WM for a hot relationship.

1523.

African American Dad
Seeking bottom son who wants mentorinnurturing, magical sex but also an equal partnership w/an older man. I'm 50, graying, handsome, stocky, 5'9", 200#.

1524.

A Taste Of The Northwest
Damned handsome GBM, import, 6'4",
194#, 28, fit, hung, pos. sks similar
GWM for Intriguing intervention. Stocky,
redheads, hairy A+. 1 12 1525.

Come To The Country
You: 5'8" or shorter, 29-39, HIV-, boy next door. GWM. Me: husband mat/l, 5'9", 155%, brz/blu, 40ish, live in SF & Sonoma. Butch, real, social.

1526.

Redhead Seeks GM For LTR
Professional gdlking, masculine GWM,
5'8", 142#, r/h), clean-cut, 40's, versatitle top, seeks trim, bright GM, race unim portant, for building relationship. Us: HIV-, communicative, caring, open, passionate, varied interests, NS/ND. @

Handsome GWM 30's HIV+ Slim build. Seeks man of different race/culture for romance. My favorite things: food, exercising, mother nature, reading, friends, traveling, laughter, dan ing, the arts, holistic healing, politics & making love. 12 1528.

Seeks Man W/A "Real" Self GHM, handsome, muscular, silver brown, 57", 160#, 42, hung seeks GWM fit 35-45, HIV+. You had healthy childhood, no anger or phonies. Seeking mutual respect & growth. 12 1529.

Looking For Mr. Right
Tired of Mr. Right Now! You too? Me:
34, 67, 185#, blk/brn, interested in LTR.
You: 30-40, in shape, blonde A+. Let's
talk. № 1530.

Catch Me If You Can Handsome, sensitive, energetic, AM seeking Christian, HIV-, professional, attractive WM, 25-38, for friendship & possibly more.

1532. Hopeful Romantic GWM, 42, 5°11", 185#, dark hair/eyes, masculine, considered handsome, hairy, good build, enjoys hiking, sunsets on the beach, fireplaces, old movies, and long, passionate kisses. I'm HIV+, but extremely healthy & looking for commitment.

1533.

Hot? Sure! But Can You Kiss?
Me: HIV+, healthy, handsome, tan, in shape, bl/bl, 33, 510", 155#. You: similar but your own person. Haven't we already wasted too much time? Let's make some magic!

1534.

Horn Rims Or Tortoise Shells? GWM, 35, 5'11", 210#, grad student seeking attractive, well read man in glass es weclectic interests, A/H/B A+. 129 1535.

Need A New Boyfriend? WM, 52 (looks 30's), 5'11', 155#, clean shaven, NS/NO, HIV-, looking for AM, 25-35, short, slim, for LTR. Like 60's-80's music, theater, dining, travel, scuba, photography, movies, dancing, cats. Affectionate, loyal, marriage-minded.

123
1536.

I Give Up
You find someone when you quit looking.
This is my "quit looking" ad. Me: 6'
210#, BB, handsome, 40 ++ beard,
HIV+, funny, masc. You: husky bear,
gdlkng, masculine, honest, fun.

1537.

Positive Artist 40ish
GWM, 6', likes dogs, wine, camping, cars, food, movies, theater, dance, gardening, sex & loves honesty, jewelry ISO same.
1609.

GWM Wanted By Shy GAM
Very attractive GAM, 25, 5'10", seeks handsome, fit, prof. GWM under 40, w/interests in travel & classical music for poss, relationship. Both HIV-. Dress/sheer sock fetish a+.

21 1610.

Platonic Gdlkng Slim Retired Guy Mustache, crewcut, hip, 5'9'', 150#, HIV-, seeks similar guy, nonsexual. Interests: music, opera, politics, science, etc. Smoke & Bars OK. SF. ☑ 1611.

Self Aware And Sexy Hot
Attractive GWM, 27, 5'9", 155#,
brown/brown. Professional Francophile,
gym-going, SM bottom. Seeking attractive, in shape, GWM, possible French,
under 35, HIV., educated, intimacy capable, top. ND/No clubs. 1612.

Sincere Responses Only For GAM Professional, mid 30's, shy & quiet looking for others winterests in true friendship, theater, movies, short trips, quiet evenings & maybe an honest LTR. ☎ 1613.

White Boss Seeks Black Boss
Smooth "boyish" 51, 5'7", 145#, great
kisser, & boss at work, needs bigger, total
top, black boss in bed. Sucking, fucking,
cuddling to start. LTR possible for right
man.

1614.

Pos User-Friendly WM 50's Sks In shape, NS males, 18+, for friendship safe sex. Be masc. or boyish, any race, HIV-. Pluses: hunky, hung, affectionate, versatile. Romantic mtn retreat western Sonoma county. 12 1615.

Hot Masculine Man
WM, 42, 5°10", 175#, mustache, muscular, seeks masculine, muscular guy, 40+,
mustache, maybe balding, who enjoys
working out, outdoors, etc., who wants relationship/soul mate, later move to country or desert?
1616.

In Search Of
Open, honest, & not afraid to walk down a
path we haven't been on,. HIV+ 11 yrs &
healthy, 5'8", 140#, easy going, romantic, likes life, board games, cards etc.
1617.

Bearcat Seeks Hissing Panther
Cat wbear tendencies. GWM, 38,
bm/gm, 185#, attractive-not buffed.
Dangerously intelligent. No preconceptions. Likes harry bears & cats w/mustaches. 12 1618.

Young Gdlkng Son Wanted By mature Dad, 72, 5'8", 165#, for on going sexually intimate times. You are 18-40, & need an understanding Father to love & be loved by.

1619.

Bottom Dad Seeks Top Son 25-45, to share the good life w/profession al GWM, 41, 5'6", 135#, HIV-. Must be goal/power/wealth focused. N/A/D/S. 1620.

Sincere Only
GWM, 48, 5'8", 160#, bottom, seeking a
top for relationship. No one night stands.
Be under 50, any race. 1621.

Self Made Boy Seeks Caring Dad Boy is 24 yo, bld/blu, 5'8", 130#, socially & financially responsible; likes warm cuddling after rough play sessions, HIV + but full of life. Dad should be prof., secure, hairy, monogamous. 22 1622.

HIV+ A Refreshing Approach Meet others w/HIV who believe that this can be a chronic condition & want to accept & transform themselves. Emphasis is on: social activities, community participation, a process of chanee, and more. Call to find out more. ☑ 1623.

Calling All Southern Cowboys!
GWM, 38, 510", 135#, blond/blue, mustache, seeks LTR w/ HIV+ "Southern"
gentleman cowboy, muscular & hairy,
w/facial hair. I am HIV+. Please be between 30-50. No games. 22 1654.

Muscular Attraction
Monogamous, muscular male enjoys dating, film, TV, cooking, art, fashion, mutual body worship & titplay, 'I'm 40's, smooth, black/brown, 5'7'', 150#, 40 C, 30 W, 14 A, mustache, HIV-, NS. Seeks similar GM.

1681.

Seeking A Muscular Black Male Muscular GWM, 38, looking to date a well defined, smooth gay black male, who is honest, sincere, & stable. Let's try it. S 1682. Athletic Guy Rugged, spontaneous, & fit Asian, 48, 5'9", 150#, seeks clean-shaven, affectionate, in-shape guy for adventurous companion into hiking, sports, workouts, ethnic foods, dancing, arts, & travel.

1688.

LESBIAN

Wanted: Lover & Friends
I'm 30 yo, GWF, 5'7", lean, gdlkng,
w/long hair, sort of butch, seek GWF, 20
yo +, NS, affectionate, attractive, animal
lover. Sonoma/Marin counties.

1574.

Sexy Non-Assimilationist Lezbo 24 yo, 5'3". Arab/Anglo, full-figured, mostly femme, intelligent, sensuous, funky, artistic, arbeist, wild, tame, angry, sweet, smoker seeks voluptuous, dark haired, bold queer chicks for dates, friendship & bigot bashing. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 1575.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Free Quality Massage Strong, sensual, nurturing, full body Swedish massage for nicely built young men. I'm 62″, 175€, 43, gdling, masculine, sincere. Experienced. Table. Because you'll enjoy it! № 1431.

Hot Assplay
Seeking husky guys into getting fingered by attractive clean cut GAM, muscular, 33, 5°9°, 169#, Latinos & Asians a +.

22 1432.

European Male
40, bl/br, 6'4", 170#, stache, likes old movies, dancing, cooking, quiet eves.
Walks on beach. ISO guys 30-48, NS/ND, to hang out with.

1433.

Safe Sex Buddy/Massage Mates Deaf GWM, 43 years young, blue/brown, 6′, slender, goatee, top, HIV-, seeking GBM, GAM, GLM, 25-45, masculine, HIV-, bottom, slender to average, gymtoned, for safe sex & massage.

121 1434.

Hot Wet Man Sex
30, healthy handsome, very athletic & fit, hung, white male seeks gdlkng, fit WM under 40, HIV-, for hot, wet, oral bottom servicing. NS/ND! Clean-cut types. 1435.

Want To Play & Get Sweaty 2 handsome guys, 30's, want hung third for versatile action. You are friendly, sin cere & very playful. Call now. 122 1436.

Lunch Time Rim Jobs
Provided at discrete financial dist. tearoom. Attractive GWM, 32, 6'2", mustache, br/br, serves butt at the noon hour.
You: attractive GM, 20-50. Let me make
your ass sing.

1437.

Bottom Seeks Nasty Top Hot, gdlkng, 33, 6′, 175#, brv/brn, GWM, HIV+, symtomatic, very healthy, nasty btm, sks hot, in shape top, for kinky play, butt play, all night, party favors? ② 1438.

Young Asian Oral Service Gdlkng, AM, 42, 5'7", 135#, will service 18-30 yo, uncut Asian male. Kick back! № 1439.

Latex/Rubber Bear Cub GWM, healthy HIV+, 37, 5'10", 200#, blue eyes, shaved head, beard, furry tattooed & pierced. Into romance/cuddling to extreme latex/rubber sex w/other rubber men. Many other interests also.

1440.

Hot White Bottoms Wanted By 52 yo, white male, 6', 155#, drk brn hair, brn eyes, glasses, 9" cock wants to plow hot young white asses. You must be under 40, smooth bodied. 12 1441.

Looking For Oriental Spice Bi WM, 30 yo, 6'1", 170#, br/br, looking for an Asian friend w/nice body & soul, age 20-35, must be HIV-, NS/ND, straight acting.

1442.

Check This Out GWM, 30's, 5'10", 140#, friendly, handsome, top, buzz cut, med build w/big dick seeks similar in shape fuck buddy w/own place for occasional sex: JO, kissing, body contact, plowing.

1443.

Expert Ass Eater
Hot, attractive, Hisp male, 5'10", 165#,
dk hair & eyes. Looking for in shape guys
w/receptive butt-holes, love those protruding butt-holes w/a lot of lips.

1444.

HIV+ Friendless Computer Geek
Oddball loner, kind, affectionate, bookish,
net addict, white, 39, 5712°, 1656#,
br/br/goatee, craves sensual/affectionate
physical contact, naked fun a0 uninhibited sex wjodd Aslans. © 1445.

Ride Me Hard & Fast
Just shut up & ride!! WM, 30, 5710°,
200#, b/bb, muscle hunk, 48° ch, 32° w
clean-cut, wants gdling & very masculine
men to top me. Call anytime, even late
night. © 1446.

night. 2 1446.

Tired Of Your Dildo?

GWM/GLM, 20-35 yo, bottom boys in good shape, clean shaven, who need to get plowed good & deep, and like taking it.

Me: GWMt bay, 40 yo, 5'6", 140#, good shape, no BS. 2 1447.

Mutual Daytime Tit Work
With long oral play & JO. Me: mld 40's,
ht/wt prop. You: any age, ht/wt prop.

1448.

Watch U Show Off Your Parts 28 yo, WM, wants u to strip down get sucked/sniffed while you show it off. U are under 35, very clean cut, in shape & masculine. SP 1449.

East Bay Bottom Needs Full Top Young black bottom, 25, needs service. Perfect body, great ass. You: 25-35, Asian, Latino, Athletic, a + . Let's work! HIV-, safe & discreet. 1451.

Hot Latino Top Wanted
By a heavy set, affectionate, hairy, bottom, GWM, 36, 5'11", 300#. Prefer
under 35, smooth, good shape, ND/NS,
who likes to suck, get sucked, & to fuck

1452.

Expert Cocksucker
48, GWM, bearded, oral expert down town, any age, race, 7" better. Lay back & get done, leave detailed message. 22 1453

Hot Licks
Handsome, uncut, GWM, 54, 6', 180#, br/bl, clean shaven seeks kinky, attractive smooth, slim, guts, 18-26, for safe fun & pleasure. Let daddy's hot licks give your bum a rush!

1454.

Older Guy 45-70?? WM, 49, 5'11", 185#, seeks sincere guy for friendship/oral service. I'm discreet. Thanks. 1538.

Afternoon Fun GWM, 39, 6', 165#, & HIV+, seeks other gdlkng Asian, or Hispanic HIV+ men for fun. I have short brown hair, mus-tache, blue eyes, & a smooth body. Please, nobody over 35. 12 1539.

Obedient?
This aggressive GWM, 6'1", 165#, slender hard body, seeking HIV-, GW/LM who is muscular, any slze & knows how to provide oral service. UB: obedient. Prefer smooth, hard, body. 12 1540.

Hairy Bottom Seeks Hairy Tops
Latino bottom, 33, great body & very
hairy, 5'6", 140# seeks very hairy, muscular, athletic, well hung tops for hot sex
Hairy, muscular, athletic, hung tops only.
Very hairy a +.

12 1541.

Loosen Your Tie.

Service-oriented, tall, thin, muscled, long hair w/strong legs, nice ass & big dick seeks sexy, in shape, business-type to top me. Relaxed, unapplogetic attitude, please.

1542.

Hot, Wet, Hard, Up Close, & In...
Very tall, lean, smooth, muscled, 30's, GM, long hair, trim beard, masculine, active bottom, seeks alert, in shape, tops for friendly hot sex. Talented kissers & penetrators preferred.

1543.

Know What Happens 2 Lazy Boys Mature cultured schoolmaster ISO scholars who need motivation & discipline. Hairy, hung, & muscular are +++. HIV-Peninsula location ideal. Might switch roles. 22 1544.

Ass Massage Spanking Top Attrac, Daddy type, GWM, 45, 6'5", 250 #, husky build. You: attrac, GWM, 18-35, slim, smootl/moderate body hair & nice buns. Spanking will stimulate nerve endings you never knew you had.

1545.

Hot/Hung/Handsome/Horny/HIV-& versatile, seeks white, masc, muscle hunks w/either big dicks/bubble asses or both. New & close to Nob Hill hotels. Dis creet only. I'm 6'1", 180#, br/br, 37 yo. 1546.

Muscular, BB Bottoms:
You would secretly love to have this mysterious 9 inch topman ride your rear. Details direct contact phone number required. Hot satisfaction guaranteed. 120 1547.

No Reciprocation—Small OK— You: 18-35, athletic or trim, plunge & enjoy daytime tops or Univ. students OK Be discreet. Me: clean cut, older, deep oral, average ht/wt, br/hzl, nice looking. 1548.

Soul And Salsa
GBM, 30, 5'11", stocky, 190#, big legs, hard bubblebutt wants well hung, masculine Latino or Black top guy to service orally & plow me long & hard. Anytime.

12 1549.

Handsome, masculine & very muscular B widefined & buffed physique, mid 30%, dark hair, seeks in shape, endowed men to worship hard muscle & big dick. You bave 9+" & masculine attitude.

1550.

Hot Hairy Husky Gang Bang 220#, GWM, stache, masculine seeks HIV- top/tottom buddies for sweaty raw butt piowin' sessions. Good old fashioned butt pounding for husky, in shape, masculine men only. 1251.

For Your Oral Pleasure
30's, very handsome, loves to give oral.
No \$. No reciprocation. You must be clean & healthy. Any race. Your place. \$F & N. Bay. Let me love it. \$\alpha\$ 1552.

Latino Playmate Wanted
Blue collar, hairy assed, Latino into jockstraps, cockrings & a good tounge. Me:
5'10", 160#, French/German, swimmer's
build/all American.

1553.

Midnight To 5 AM Only Fucking
Only play Fri thru Mon. 12 AM to 5 AM.
Castro blue light special @ Sanchez &
Market. Hot Italian, 43, Mst & goatee.
Needs plunging. Call for info. 12 1554.

Mid-Peninsula JO Buddy Sought
Wine & dine your boyfriend—save the
bullshit for your boss. Me: 6'1", 180#,
very muscular, tan & lightly hairy, 35.
You: smooth & built, NS/ND. Place:
yours. № 1555.

Let Me Milk

Your stiff cock w/my hot mouth. My lips & tongue seek a little action. You be clean & disease free. Avail days & eves. Discretion guaranteed. 12 1556.

Experienced or not, gentle to forceful.
Limits respected, pleasure assured, E. Bay preferred, but SF also, especially late. I'm fit & trim, fun, middle-age, alive, smooth, passionate. Let me give you a hand.

• Fuck Master • Hot bottom boys, thin or muscular, 18-35, washboard abdominals, veiny arms, & tight butt, sought by dominant muscular fuckmaster, 61", 185#, 8" dick, blue eyes, black hair.

1558.

Just Been Fucked!!
And ready for more, if you want hot juicy cum fuck w/GBM, 39, 5'11'', 142#, lkg for cum fuckers who like it raw 1 on 1 or more. Ready when you are,

1559.

Foreskin Lovers Only
Trim, athletic, horny, clean & uncut, 49 yo,
HIV-, GWM is available for mutual pleasure & good service for the price of a phone
call. Satisfaction guaranteed. 1560.

Daytime Sex Partner Wanted Sexual release is a good thing. Versatile GWM, 36, tall/slim, great shape. Oral, top/tum, til play, JO. No hang ups or scenes. Must be discreet! HIV+.

1561.

Stud Butt-Hole Licker
Muscular, athletic jock w/rimseat is look
ing for nasty studs who like to kick back
& have their asshole, balls, & cock worshipped by an eager obedient, hot tongue
1562.

Rough & Tough, Hot & Hard
Where are you this hot summer? Very
hairy chested WM, 49, 5'10", 175#,
HIV-, mustache, w/stamina & balls for
wrestling, boxing, erotic sweaty fun. Bay
Area or Sacto. 12 1563.

AS Pyr Old Male Seeks Young
Ass Buster. I'm 5'10", 170#, never been fucked, & want young male, 18-22, to break me in. Gentle at first. HIV-only. Safe sex only. Especially interested in college students and/or 3-somes. 1264. Expert Cocksucker
Senior, GWM, 57", 130#, begs to worship masc, verbal, topman. Only, over 40, wgt proportion, Cauc or Asian. 121624.

Train Top-Paw To Your Rymnts Long-suppressed deep-butt hunger needs expert nurturing. Caucasian, 42, 5'11", 180#, beard, tats, pierced. Be 30's-40's, decent shape, wripe hole. Bi, couple, mer of color welcome. 12 1625.

All American Horny Hung Musc BM, 28, 5°9', 185#, 45C, 17A, 31W, 9X6 cut, very masc & attractive seeking simular very muscular guys under 35 yo in SF for hot Salt n Pepper musc sex! ଛ 1626.

Palo Alto GAM Seeks Top Bears By 37 yo, 195#, blk/brn, smooth skin Fil ipino. UB: hairy, but not necessarily, yet hung 7"+, and under 50. 22 1627.

Plumbing Getting Backed Up?
Hoses worked on while you relax. Kick
back & have your pipe worked on by a big
guy, Regular appointments help keep your
tubes running clean. No recip. necessary.
22 1628.

Drainage Specialist Available

Cute Slave Or Master
Sought by gym-toned boyish Asian (mid
30's). We're both in great shape, turned
on by it. Explore bondage/light SM & exhibitionism. NS/ND, adventurous. Open to
all races. 1630.

HIV- Bottom
Seeking GW/HM top. Prefer very muscular/B8 w/well defined arms, chest. I 'm a GWM, slender in good shape, 6', 165#, nice looking. Will consider fantasy/role playing. 1631.

Furry Bear Seeks Hot Latino You love to get your big dick sucked.
Mota, uncut a plus. I'm affectionate,
solid, husky white Bear, oral expert, 38,
6′, 225#, brown/green, beard, balding,
cut, healthy HIV+.
☐ 1632.

Married, But Not Dead
MBM, 47, 5°10", 165#, average looks,
endowment, superior education, passion,
ISO safe Greek A & P, once or once in a
while. You: any race, fit, stiff. SF to
Union city. Phone. № 1633.

I Must Spank Some White Cheeks
I'm 25 yo, charming, black, & gay experienced in the art of meeting "cute" or
"fairly cute" white guys who like to go out
on a date, then have me paddle their ass a
little. Sincere only! 12 1634.

Summer Bud 18-22 Str8/Bi??? Wanted for partyin' get massages, watch str8/bi porn videos. J0 machine from bl/blu bi dude. Call Ricky now! 2 1635. Body Builder Wanted Looking for huge muscle. Bodybuilder wanted for hot massage & hot sucking & fucking. Me: versatile, trlm w/stiff 8". Love to probe. № 1636.

Seeks Huge JO, Dirty Talk Buddy
Oaklander Into mutual phallic worship as
religious erotic science, drink, smoke,
party a must. Not a fuck/suck, top/bottom
scene. Late evenings only. Age, race,
looks unimportant. 12 1637.

Service Man
Masculine, muscular dick/cum plg, at you service. Tell me what to do. VA, stocky, hairy A+. 1638.

Ultra sensitive FFB V/Responsive ISO hypersensual topfist (any stats), all nite party. Fit, attır, 59 yo, brillant deep throat, a hole rapture to stare, you lead tyour bliss, my/your sling, HIV+, availabli 7 days, nights. Intensity can be a flow of ecstasy.

1639.

Seeking Married Men
Sexy cute 23 yo, 5'8", 132#, Spanish
king, very fit, HIV-, educated, discreet
looking for married, prof. men, HIV-, who
would like to grant all my sexual needs.
No fats. 12 1640.

Focused Bottom
Seeks something big to focus on. Be: 35, tall, energetic, dedicated to please. U: Enthusiastic, 7.5"+, 21.3"7 vo, decent shape. All races welcum!

20 1641.

Hot 2 Seek More Heat! WeR: 2 hot, horny, gdlkng, fun, 30's, blondes, hung top/skilled bottom. UB: hung, 21-40, nice shape. Group leasur assured!

2 1642.

Mutual Safe Butt & Tit Play
55, GWM, bald, It brown beard, hairy
chest, HIV., nucu, N.S/ND, 6⁴, 175#, fit,
trim. You: similar sweet man. Afternoon
sex, your place in SF. Let's play.
1643.

East Bay Fun Gdikng, masculine Bi BM, light skin, 6'2", 195#, 45, humorous, romantic seeks Asian, Latin, Black friend for cud-dling, caressing hot fun together.

1644.

Expert Cock Sucker Wants You GBM, 33, 5'6", 120#, 9" cut. Wants your cock to suck & to drink your cum. Let me service your cock. You must be 7" & & e 21 yrs to 30. I am cock hung "Feed me." 1645.

Older Men GWM, 35, 5'11", 160#, looking for older men who enjoys playing w/smooth, slender boys like me. 12 1646.

Safe But Hot Sex
Mostly straight, masculine, WM, 55,
seeks older male, 65-75. Cum watch me
JO, take photos, if you want, then you J0
& cum on my face.

1647.

Blk Dad Top Seeks wht & Latin bottoms, 35+, facial hair a+. I'm 6′, 200#, average looks, 48 yo. You are very submissive. Eager to please. № 1648.

No Strings Attached
GBM, 30, 6′, 170#, 9″, top seeks GWM,
30-50, for afternoon fun. Not looking for
a commitment, let's just kick back &
enjoy. Sex is great, but not necessary.
1649.

Do You Like It Smooth?
Shave me or shave you! GWM, 31, seeks bold hot men who like to play in the lather! The more we "take off" the more the fun! Safe & ready only! 1650.

Hungry Top
Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big, needs Cau men, 20-30's, well built w/a big hairy bubble butt to eat & fuck.

1651.

Seeking Rural Sex Buddy Tall, hot, HIV-, GWM, w/mustache, verstile bottom, seeks hairy, hot, HIV-sex buddy top w/facial hair for escapes from the city to visit your neck of the woods.

Eat Me!

Eat Me! Sexy, masculine, hairy Bear, 43, 5'5", 140#, HIV-, w/hot crotch seeks hungry talented buddy for long sessions of oral worship & service. Verbal, imaginative dominant, sane & healthy. № 1653.

Afternoon Sex Bud Wanted
This 30 yo, handsome, in shape, bottom i
looking for a mase, in shape, Daddy type
that's well endowed & enjoys oral service
& affection from a young man.

1055.

Headline 30 characters of

Write the rest of your ad h

Carpe Diem 6', 155#, 33 yo, br/bl, artist, athlete, Taosit seeks men for hot Yang encounter Energetic, big, strong, Latin, Black, mo-torcycles all + + 4's, but not requisite.

HIV+ GBM Seeks GWM Top Healthy, 36 yo, 180#, 5'11", GBM seek GWM top. Tell me how you want me to take It. 22 1657.

Boys For Bondage Wanted
Experienced 27 yo, in SF looking for boys
(18-35) for hot bondage sessions. Me:
gdlking, 70/30 top. You: good shape, live
in SF, be under 35. Novices welcome. Call
now, boy. 1658.

Hot GWM Seeks Iberian Top GWM, 35, 5'8", 160#, mod. hairy, have lover, seek Spanish or Portuguese man, 30-45, for fuck buddy relationship. You: top, not fat, into fucking. 22 1659.

I Dan't Tell GWM, 50, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, S/P; very fit, very hungry, You: under 50, good shape, HIV-, love getting sucked. No strings. 1660.

Weekly Oral Service
Cute African-American 25, 5'6", 155#, seeks gdlkng, WM/Latins, 24-40, HIV-, enjoy being serviced weekly. No 1 nite stands. Honest, serlous only. Will return all calls.

2 1661.

Service Men Wanted!
Gorgeous white top is looking for a brown skinned bottom to service me monthly. I prefer muscular Latin & other brown skinned men who are HIV- & under 40. If your willing I'm ready to receive. 120. 1662.

Seriously Submissive 5'8", 145#, hairy, seeks tall, real men-you tell me what you want-I'll see you get it!! What Ifavor? Leather, bondage, or just vanilla. 22 1663.

Hands On Your Crotch A Lot? Phone sex, videos, mutual JO, kissing, 69, ass eating all appeal to this 42 yo, healthy masculine GWM & I'm looking for a hot black man, 21-45, to share in the fun. 22 1664.

Muscular Gdlk European Import 35, 5'10", 180#, discreet, fun, smart, from LA (sorry), often in SFO, need tall, very muscular, Black, Caucasian, Foreign, intelligent (if possible) bodybuilder, for safe fun.

165.

Puck Like Rabbits
Do you like dirty talk, naughty play, un-bridled passion? Handsome Hawaiian BB, 35, w/chiseled, smooth, muscles, devilish, libido & a magic wand to transform you into an animal in heat.

12 1666.

A Few Good Men
Couple, 39/46, looking for one or mon
experienced tops to visit our equipped
playroom w/sling for cock & hole wors
Safe/sane, verbal, uniformed, Leather
encouraged. Let's explore! 12 1667.

Handsome, Hung, Horny, HIV+ GBM, 30's. 5'8", 150#, 10", masc, gdlkng, top seeks GWM tops 4 sex 4 friendship. Should be under 50 & in shape. 22 1668.

Hung Guys Wanted
I'm looking for guys who are hung 9" or larger for fun & good times.

1669.

Ride Me Hard & Fast
Just shut up & ride!! WM, 30,5'10",
200#, bl/bl, muscle hunk, 48" ch, 31" w,
clean-cut, wants gdlking & very masculine
men to top me. Call anytime, even late
night. 12 1680.

Let's Wrestle
Turned on by wrestling? This muscular,
handsome, GWM invites you to satisfy
your erotic wrestling fantasies. No heavy
rough housing—Just good, clean, sweaty
fun. 12 1683.

FETISHES

I Surprise You & You Suck Me Whether it be your workplace or a remy whether it be your workplace or a remote bathroom in the East Bay, when you unsuspectingly see my bulging shorts you'll swallow my big cock. Leave time, date, location. 12 1455.

Play With My Butt Play With My Butt I want you to shove things up my tight butt (your dick, toys, etc.). Me: boyish 34 yo, brn/hzl, 155#, gdlkng. You: 30-45, dominant top. Bears OK. 22 1456. Bondage For Asians
WM, late 40's, will strip, tie you up, play
w/your cock/balls/tits & make you cum.
Muscular a +. 22 1457.

Titwork & BJs
Me: gdlkng, hairy chest, S&P goatee, 6',
230#, hung 9", big masculine, versatile
guy, some bondage, You: similar, love
nips & work them well.

1458.

Scat Boys: Place Your Face Where it belongs-in my asshole. This hunk likes to bend over & feed pigs like you in front of friends. Picture swap required. Only most worthy selected. \$\Displays 1459.

Scat: Bodybuilder Top Wanted
Experienced clean cut, versatile, hungry
bottom seeks bodybuilder top for long se
sual sessions. Also Into BD, IT, & most
other scenes. Have rimseat, videos,
leather. Leave message & number. All
calls answered. 22 1461.

Piss On Me
Healthy, 6'4", bear, 53, big nipples,
uncut, massive balls, beer gut, likes to be
hosed down wistrong early morning stuff
Seeks top pissers, pref. uncut, for outdoor
action. Also into hairy butts. HIV- only
please.

1265.

Narcissistic Exhibitionist Read Let's talk about you. I want to admire you as you stroke it or look in the mirror. Handsome Latino, average built longs to feel inferior next to you. 22 1566.

Big Uncut Mexican
39 yo, chunky, balding, average looks, is looking for non gay types but uncut, dirty older men, who enjoy playing kinky fantasies white shorts older kinky & big a +. Lv #. 22 1567.

Top This GWM, 43, 6'4", 205#, attractive, w/hungry tongue seeks attractive top man, 30-50, for thorough butt cleaning. Hairy, ripe A+. A 1568.

A Man's Hand Works Best!
GWM, 40's, needs old-fashioned, over th
knee spanking on my pants, shorts & bar
ass. Stern lecture & pants down corporal
punishment required from teacher, boss,
or? Caring discipline, not SM. 22 1569.

Yours -Mine -Ours
A dick & a good pair of hands is a joy for
ever (or for at least an hour or so!). If
you're interseted in intense cock work, either the do'er or the do'ee, leave # for a
discreet call back. Age & race not important.
120 1570.

Best Bare Assed Spankings
Big daddy bear, 44, 280#, administers
strict discipline to bad boys, 18-50. Hans
strap, paddle, cane applied firmly wllovir
care. All scenes considered. Experienced
Safe. 12 1571.

Black Guy Likes Spanking Butt I'm cute, mature, sincere, gay & into; bu spanking white guys-'masculine'- fannie: I like cute, or semi-cute men, nice, & accepting of my strap across those pink cheeks!! \$\alpha\$ 1583.

Call Me Sir! GWPM, 50, husky seeks sailor or marine to take orders, strip, & pass inspection; E. Bay, married, hairy, uncut, OK. Attention: 27 1572. Show Off!!!

Show Off!!!
Strip down & show off. Exhibitionists needed for nude, mirror jock strap, Speedo & spandex performances. Solo or groups. Let's make it hot. Muscles worshipped & creativity encouraged. Get naked!!! 1273.

Fur—Real
Wanted: Sandy bro/blond, mustached,
furry masculine man, who wants to be
oraly serviced. No fur, no fun. By GWM,
40, bro/bro, mustached, light pelt, in
shape, 57", cock sucking man.

1670.

Full Service Sewer Throat
Services rank, hairy assed tops, verbal
abuse, piss, scat, BD, cheesy uncuts, spitters. I'm hairy, tattooed, hot bodied, eagecocksucker. Heavy duty attitude. Over 40
A+. \$\mathbb{Q}\$1671.

Dirty Dungeon Dude
36, 5'6, buzz cut, hairy, looking for raunch pig, top/versatile w/dungeon/play room I love TT, BD, WS, rimming, scat. Rim chair A+. Take me to pig heaven!

1672.

Hol, hungry toilet boy needs to feed off straight bi or extremely masculine raum masters who get off on rough, raunchy, depravity. Leather, cigars, kinky scenes A++. \$\mathbf{\Omega}\$ 1673.

GM, 40, attracted to rustic looking... w/large guts who are smokers, for aff tion, kissing & oral sex. Not into gay scene, leather, SM, drugs. 22 1674.

Nice Guy Loves Barefeet
Lifelong excitement looking at and fanta-sizing about men's barefeet. Gdlkng East
Bay GWM, 5°9", trim, tan, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefeet & sensual/safe all over body play.

2 Guys For Watersports
Seek willing third for drenching & drinking scenes. You are 20-45, friendly & hot.
We are 30's, hung, handsome & ready for
some wet summer fun.

2 1684.

Looking For Huge Thick Nipples Musc, great pecs, 38, seeks a gdlking, musc guy w/huge, protruding nipples. I have a great mouth, & want to suck your huge nipples! 2 1685.

Leather Fantasy Sling Playroom For GI visitors w/great asses esp. versatile tops & masculine bottoms. 40 yo, W, top who is well built & handsome will deliver your fantasy. 22 1689.

COUPLES

Latinos Cum GWM couple, early 40's, HIV-, seeking Latin singles/couples interested in regular service. Cum w/us. 22 1576.

SF Couple Seeks Hung Tops Gdlkng, in shape, SF couple, 42 & 34, healthy HIV +, whot butts seeks top sin-gles/couples who are hung very big/thick for 3/4 ways (w/condoms, of course).

1577.

8 1/2 Hung Top/Amazing Bottom Want 1 or more for hot action, we're blond, 30's, handsome, in shape, & friendly. You are 20-45, handsome, playful, & want a good time. 12 1686.

GWC Seeks Fun
Pleasant Hill/Walnut Creek GWC or
GWM needed for a night of fabulous fun.
This attractive couple will not disappoint.

1676.

Hot GWM Couple Looking For 3rd 2 handsome gay males are looking for a third or another couple for hot times. Give us a call-you won't be sorry. 2 1677.

Attractive GAM/GWM Couple
Wants GAM to explore SM, BD, or tell us
your fantasy. 18-38 yo, uncut A+.
1687.

OTHER

4th Wrestle With Pride Party! Saturday before the parade, join some of the country's hottest, toughest wrestling studs in private gym party. No gawkers—if you come, you gotta wrestle or fight.

1460.

Workout Partner GWM, 42, 6'2", 190#, wants regular, twice, three times a week weight training partner. Muscle System.

■ 1578.

Wrestling-Sport Of Kings 6', 180#, Tarzan seeks friendly rival mus-culars to wrestle. Clean technique, nobody gets hurt. Fun handsome guy. Mat or nude beach. Same size please. ☎ 1579.

Looking For Lost Love Looking for Bennett R. I still love you. Please call me. I live in Long Beach. Please call, I love you. John R. C.

1580.

Tour Guide & Friend Wanted GBM, 24, in Seattle, looking for pen pal & friend to show around SF during montl of Sept. If interested leave a message. Thanks. 12 1581.

Discussion Group
Gay issues, Leather, academic subjects, the arts, music, politics, in relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Must wear full leather to meetings. 22 1582. Nude Portraits
You solo or w/a friend pose naked. In act or not, for a free drawing, suitable for framing. A great ice breaker for guests.

1678.

Asian Wrestlers
18-30, Asian, muscular, athletic, enjoy wrestling for fun/competition. 2 1679.

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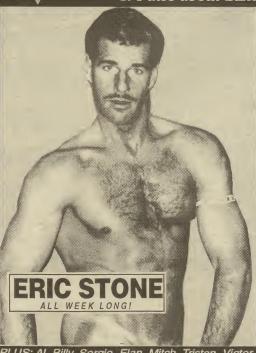
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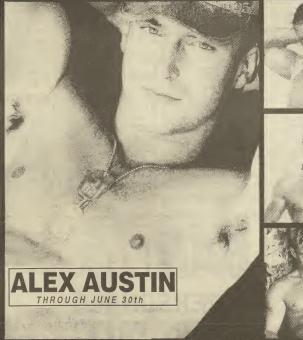
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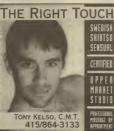
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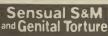






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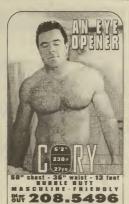
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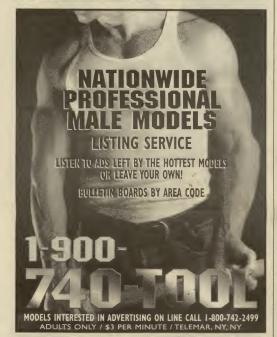
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